



THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

Vol. I.]

MARCH, 1913.

[No. 1

Foreword

THE Planters of Ceylon are to some extent envied by their brothers in South India and in Malaya for the solidity of their political organization and for their correspondence with the Government under which they live. Living in Ceylon, and awake to the apparent impossibility of obtaining an unanimous vote upon any single aspect of the all-absorbing labour question, one is inclined to smile perhaps a little cynically at the thought of so respectable and ill-earned a reputation. But a reputation is a possession to be protected; and the most efficient method of protecting one such as this is to do our best to make sure that we deserve it. There is a real unanimity of intention among the Planters in Ceylon, even if there be a mighty difference of opinion regarding the best road to the same goal. And some of the clearest heads that have ever worked at our problems maintain that this difference of opinion is partly due to the want of a recognised Planting Organ which might voice the thoughts of many who shrink from urging their conclusions through the public Press. Committees, as such, are not remarkably articulate. They meet, and discuss, and pass resolutions; and those who attend them profit thereby, but true ventilation of the many subjects crowded into a single meeting is not always obtained. The ardent advocate of some new idea or scheme is often at the mercy of a glib critic who possesses much power to destroy, though little to construct. But could the whole matter be carefully explained in an article, and then thrashed out in correspondence and brought clearly before the community there would be more hope of advance. For it is unquestionable that quick debating power is much less common than a faculty for lucid expression upon paper. For this reason, if for none other, the creation of a *Planting Gazette* appears desirable.

But there are many other reasons almost equally cogent. Into the office of the Planters' Association there come many papers of interest which might for all the notice they receive be sent with almost equal benefit to the dead letter office. They enrich the minds of the Chairman and Secretary and remain to fatten the files in the vaults below. We see in the newspaper that the Ceylon Labour Commissioner has returned to India much benefited in mind, body and estate by a sojourn in Nuwara Eliya. But as for the rest of the acts of the Commissioner, are they not written in volumes of foolscap? And exceedingly

interesting and informing they are, these reports of the Association's colleagues in India. For they not only offer enormous assistance to planters in their labour recruiting operations, but they help those who have never been to "the Coast" to picture in mind the conditions of life over there, and so to understand better the cooly's point of view. From the reports sent in by the Commissioner's Assistants may be gathered many interesting facts regarding conditions of labour in their respective localities; and when it is realized that these reports will be read by all who are most concerned with the fruit of their labours, it is not to be doubted that they will become fuller and more interesting than ever. For it is far easier to put forth one's best work when it is sure of recognition, and most of us play best when there is a gallery. So these reports will form an important part of this publication, and will satisfy the just desire of those subscribers to the Coast Agency Scheme who wish to know exactly what they are paying for.

Another function of the *Gazette*, which it is hoped may be unnecessary, is its punitive power. From time to time cases of discourtesy, bordering even in some cases upon dishonesty, come before the General Committee of the Planters' Association. Strong opinions are expressed and acrid letters read, and the matter closes with a resolution to the effect that Mr. A. or Mr. B. did not act in accord with planting etiquette. A pious opinion which does not in the least disconcert the offender against our code. There is a natural disinclination to send such details to the newspapers. But their publication in an organ such as this may prove effective. After all what we really fear at bottom is the judgment of our Peers; a fact recognised in the principles of English law; and it may be that the most unscrupulous would feel some uneasiness at the thought that his misdeeds were known to all his society, and were recorded in a manner easy for future reference.

The fugitive nature of articles which appear in the daily papers is one of their greatest weaknesses. Minutes of proceedings, scientific notes, thoughtful letters, and other matters of planting interest appear in the paper and are read once and then lost. But it is hoped that we may stimulate planting public interest to supply the Editors of this *Gazette* with much matter which will be worth preserving.

Before closing this introductory note it is a pleasure to record the interest which Mr. H. A. Beachcroft took in the Scheme. The idea of an official organ of the Planters' Association originated with him, and though he no longer resides in Ceylon, it is to be hoped that his active pen will contribute to our pages



Dr. Bahr, the distinguished Scientist who is at work in Ceylon investigating the causes of Sprue, is to lecture to members of the Planters' Association in the Planters' Hall at Kandy on the 14th February. What he has to tell us would in any case carry great weight, but it is no slight to Dr. Bahr to say that its value will be enhanced by the fact that Sir Patrick Manson is at present in Ceylon and is keenly watching Dr. Bahr's investigations. For Sir Patrick Manson is perhaps the greatest living authority on tropical diseases. We will not encroach upon Dr. Bahr's domain, as we hope to be able in our next issue to print his lecture in full. But the following simple deduction may be of interest to a community whose leading problem is the increase of the effective force of cooly labour in Ceylon. According to the latest Census the "Estate Population" of the Island is 513,467. It may fairly be assumed that the value of a cooly to an estate is not less than Rs. 100. But of this half a million of "estate population" a large proportion will be non-workers, such as children, &c. To be upon the safe side we will therefore rate this mass of population at Rs. 50 per head. On any given day the proportion of coolies who are not working, or are not working with full vigour, owing to ill-health is certainly very large indeed, probably not less than 20% of the total. Taking the above figures, the value to the Planting Industry of an increase of work-efficiency of 1% would be Rs. 256,733. Figures which are rather startling!

It is for us to consider whether the expenditure of a little money would not enable us to obtain not an improvement of 1% in work-efficiency, but perhaps 10%.

A cess of 10 cents per acre on tea and rubber would produce £4,000 a year. We can state on the best authority that for this sum we could obtain the services of two absolutely first class up to date bacteriologists and could pay the expenses of their investigations. Is it for a moment to be doubted that money thus spent would return to the spenders ten times over!

The discovery of emetine alone, properly and systematically applied on estates, would in all likelihood banish dysentery and diarrhoea from among the ailments which afflict our coolies, and the value of that can be gauged by those who have managed estate labour.

We regret much to hear of the continued ill-health of Mr. Westland, one of the three honorary life members of the Planters' Association, and we sincerely hope soon to see him abroad again to lend fire to our often rather uneventful meetings.

Mr. H. A. Beachcroft, Chairman of the Planters' Association in 1908, at present in Egypt, under doctor's orders, expects to reach Ceylon on March, the 8th.

The Hon'ble Mr. E. Rosling, Rural Member of the Legislative Council, is leaving Ceylon in May. It is time that the Planting Community began to look for a likely successor, for Mr. Rosling will be a hard man to replace.

This year will see a new Governor, a new Colonial Secretary, a new Chairman of the Planters' Association, and new Rural and Urban Members of the Legislative Council. If Planting interests in Council are to be duly regarded it behoves us to see that the Rural Member is a man well chosen and well trusted.

The Planters' Association now possesses portraits of all its past Chairmen (save of those still in Ceylon) since 1854, with one exception. There is none of Mr. W. Forsythe, Chairman in 1905. Will not the Kelani Valley come forward and present a picture of one who was formerly known as The King of the Kelani Valley?

The subject of telephones still continues to be a matter of controversy between Government and certain of the more go ahead planting districts. It seems to us that Government is sheltering itself behind an impenetrable wall of technically correct phrases. Of a broad and large treatment on the subject we see no signs at all.

But take heart Dimbula and Maskeliya! It is often the fate of original enterprise to meet with unresilient resistance, and yet the world does continue to advance.

The demand for increased transport facilities which has so greatly exercised our minds ever since rinderpest became endemic in Ceylon finds expression at many of the District Association Meetings. The bullock cart, as a means of placing produce upon the railway, is doomed as surely as is horse transport in the streets of great cities. The Motor industry owes its very existence to rubber, and as one of the great Rubber producing countries it seems strange that Ceylon should still adhere to methods of transport which were utilized by the Huns when they invaded Europe.

It is not to be expected that Government should do everything for us. We do not claim that public conveyances should be supplied to carry our merchandize from our factory doors. But we have every right to expect that Government will so far encourage private enterprise as to put the roads into a state fit to permit of the passage of motor lorries.

The existing roads were built to carry the traffic of former days. The roads which are now required must be fit to carry not only the traffic which is already too onerous for them but to carry the traffic of to-morrow. Some one will have to pay for it, of course. And naturally the burthen will fall heaviest upon us. Let it fall, and let it fall quickly so that we may reap at once the profits of what cannot fail to be a remunerative investment. Uva, Kalutara, Dimbula, and other wealthy and important districts are ready to buy or build lorries to-morrow if Government will only take heart and tackle the problem of the roads.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

His Excellency Sir Henry McCallum, G.C.M.G., has left Ceylon before the expiration of his anticipated service, owing to ill-health. The address which will be found printed below was presented to him by the Planters' Association of Ceylon. This was our official farewell. But which of us that has given the matter thought can fail to feel some share of this tragedy. Here was a man

full of vigour, great with ideas, and whole-hearted in his endeavour to do all he deemed best for the Colony he ruled and served. Intolerant of the control which generations of precedents have woven around a Governor, Sir Henry McCallum desired and tried to make his dreams into facts while yet he had the power. A greater hearted man than the common run. A man who was not afraid to make mistakes. And now he can work no more. Quite suddenly he has had to stop before his time and against his wish. Into his retirement he will carry the best wishes of us British in Ceylon, and we hope and pray that the rest he has so honourably earned will so restore his health that many years may yet remain.

One moment for the other, and disgraceful, side. The Legislative Councillors of the Governor combined among themselves to present to His Excellency a parting address. And they all agreed save one, a little minded man who had not learnt that what you should judge a man by is his greatness not his weakness, his virtues not his faults. But this one Member refused to join in their farewell. Heaven alone knows why! and has thereby stamped himself for so long as he shall live as one of petty mind.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY SIR HENRY EDWARD MCCALLUM,
G.C.M.G., A.D.C., Governor and Commander-in-Chief
and Vice-Admiral.

Your Excellency,

The Planters' Association of Ceylon, as representing the Planting Community, beg your acceptance of this farewell address.

It was with unfeigned regret that we heard of Your Excellency's illness, which has resulted in the curtailment of your Governorship of this Colony, and we extend to Lady McCallum and Your Excellency our sympathy, and sincere wishes for your speedy and complete recovery.

During Your Excellency's regime our enterprises have experienced a period of extraordinary prosperity, and the revenues of the Colony have greatly increased.

We wish to record our grateful appreciation of Your Excellency's strenuous endeavours to expedite Public Works, and of the good progress made with railway development in many parts of the Island.

Your Excellency's courtesy and kindly consideration towards the Planters' Association, and our community in general, leaves us with the happiest of memories, and we hope and trust that Your Excellency, with Lady McCallum, will long enjoy that rest and prosperity to which your many years of hard work for the Empire have so well entitled you.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary.

G. C. BLISS,
Chairman.

THE QUEEN'S HOUSE,
Colombo, 23rd January, 1913.

Gentlemen,

It affords me peculiar pleasure to receive the kind Address you have been good enough to present to me.

My associations with the Planting Community have ever been of the happiest, and I shall always look back with pleasure on the cordial relations that have subsisted between us. Indeed, I may say that I almost regard myself as one of your number seeing that it is 30 years since I first visited this Island, and that my earliest recollections are associated with kindness and hospitality received throughout the Planting Districts.

The prosperity of the Island during the past 53 years has, as you observe, been phenomenal, and, while I have done my utmost at all times to foster and further the interests of the Colony I desire to bear testimony that such assistance as Government has been able to afford would have been to a great degree stultified but for the loyal assistance of my Officers from the highest to the lowest, and the ready co-operation of your community.

There is however one service which, though promised to you soon after my arrival, I have been unable to initiate. I refer to the experiments in motor traction as a substitute for

the bullock cart which Government had undertaken to carry out. The delays and postponements that have arisen have been a cause to me of sincere regret, though I think I may honestly claim that neither my Government nor myself have been to blame. An initial and inevitable cause of delay existed in the difficulty of obtaining a form of motor traction suitable to the roads of the Colony, but, when once this had been overcome, the subsequent delays have been due entirely to defects discovered in the cars on being tested and to the irritating apathy of the makers. I trust however, gentlemen, that there will be no further delay. I have left behind me definite instructions under which I hope that, with your co-operation, an extensive system of railway motor feeders will be undertaken.

I thank you, gentlemen, for your kind reference to my wife and for the sympathetic expressions of regret you have voiced as to my own ill-health. To me it will always be a lasting and bitter source of regret that Providence in its wisdom has decreed that I must relinquish my efforts with the task but half completed, and that I am so suddenly called from labours so congenial and friends so dear.

HENRY MCCALLUM,
The Ceylon Planters' Association. Governor.

IN MEMORIAM

Alexander Wardrop.—Died 4th April, 1912. Thereby the Planters' Association lost a very able Secretary—the Planting Community lost a valuable member, and all who knew him said "good-bye" to an element in their lives that will probably not be replaced.

There remains at least the happy memory of a really generous and lovable nature that will last out the lives of many of us. He died "in harness." That I know was his wish, and that I know was the fact. His last conscious words, to the writer, were nothing of his own affairs, or himself—all were directed to work of the Planters' Association. Without an enemy, and as the friend—particularly to so many of the younger members of our community, he has left us—fortunate to have known him and happy to remember him. "Old Man"—"Old W."—as we used affectionately to call him. AVE ATQUE VALE.

G. C. B.

To the memory of Mr. Alexander Wardrop it is proposed to erect a chiming clock in the Tower of the Victoria Commemoration Buildings. Those who have not yet subscribed to this Memorial and who wished to do so are requested to send their subscriptions direct to the Secretary of the Planters' Association, Kandy.

Planters' Association of Ceylon,

Kandy, 15th October, 1912.

TO MEMBERS OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.
Gentlemen,

It is I know the wish of a large number of our members that we should perpetuate the memory of our late Secretary (and intimate friend of so many of us), Mr. Alex. Wardrop.

The proposition to put a clock in the Tower of our Building in Kandy has met with very general approval. Sir Stanley Bois has kindly interested himself in the matter and got out catalogues of clocks, etc. It is not possible to say exactly what the cost would be, but about £250 should cover everything. I suggest that those wishing to subscribe fill in the form below, and later they will be intimated the call on them.

I am,
Yours obediently,
G. C. BLISS,
Chairman, P. A. of Ceylon.

THE PLANTING GAZETTE.

(Form referred to)

THE ALEX. WARDROP MEMORIAL CLOCK TO BE PLACED IN
THE TOWER OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION
BUILDINGS, KANDY.

I will subscribe Rs. _____ towards cost of above.
In the event of further subscriptions being required I will
subscribe up to Rs. _____ including above sum.

(Signature) _____
Address _____

SECRETARY,
P. A. of Ceylon, Kandy.
Date _____

COAST AGENCY.

The Labour Commissioner, Mr. H. Scoble Nicholson, has a great task of reorganization in hand, and we learn with pleasure that his health has been completely restored by the skilful treatment of Dr. Bahr. The Commissioner has now under him an office assistant responsible for all the accounts of what is practically a bank, and has also at headquarters an assistant in charge of the large depôt at Trichinopoly. This arrangement, while leaving the Commissioner more freedom to travel than was formerly the case, has the additional important advantage of ensuring that every payment to kanganies and coolies passing through the depôt will be made under the direct supervision of a European. It is not necessary to enlarge upon the value of this, and no doubt the improved conditions will soon make themselves felt in the added popularity among coolies which the Coast Agency will enjoy.

The Assistant Commissioners are stationed as follows:—Mr. H. Farquharson at Salem, Mr. G. S. Dupen at Palghat and Mr. Rutherford Lee at Chittoor. At this last station an agency has recently been opened, and we may confidently anticipate an extension in this direction of Ceylon's recruiting area. Chittoor lies just to the North of the boundary where Tamil ends and Telugu begins, and it is the chief town of the Collectorate of the same name. Twenty-three miles South of Chittoor is Vellore, the capital of North Arcot, in the neighbourhood of which Ceylon has a well established connection. It was in the fort of Vellore that the last King of Kandy was held captive after his deposition by the Sinhalese. Arcot, famous from Clive's defence, is in the same district and not far away. And dotted all over that region are the ruins of forts and cantonments formerly occupied by British troops. Throughout this Northern Tamil country Ceylon is well known, and little advertisement is needed until there is something fresh to announce which will serve as an inducement to emigrants. But to the North of the Line where Tamil is spoken Ceylon is hardly known of save through the murky medium of the professional recruiter, and also, vaguely, as the scene of Rama's battles with Ravana. In and around Chittoor there are few if any established connections of coolies to whom Ceylon is a household word, and a fine field is open for the labours of Mr. Rutherford Lee. To the North and East of Chittoor there are dry, rocky, scrub-covered hills, divided up by irrigable valleys inhabited by simple Telugu-speaking people, whose only industry of any importance is agriculture. A large proportion of the district belongs to the Karvetnagar and Kalahastri Zemindaries, and is gradually

slipping from the hands of its hereditary princes into the clutches of Madras money lenders and of the Tirupati temple. So the bond of feudal tenure, so tremendously strong in India, has become weakened, and the villagers will perhaps be less bound to the soil than of yore. All of which augurs well for our extension North from our present recruiting region. To the North again of Chittoor district there stretches an almost inexhaustible recruiting area throughout which many of the villagers live on the edge of starvation for a considerable part of the year, existing on one meal daily of the grain known in Ceylon as Kurakkan (Tamil, Kevuru; Telugu, Ragi). The Government of India hates to use the word famine, but famine (pancham) is the word any villager of any Tamil districts of Ceylon would use to describe the conditions almost annually recurrent in the regions to the North of Chittoor.

The districts of Nellore and Cuddappah, to the North-East and North respectively of Chittoor, are, to the eye of one accustomed to Ceylon, extraordinarily barren and sunk in poverty. They alone would suffice to meet all our needs, could we but tap them. And further North again are other districts of equal promise.

We have said enough to indicate the chief direction in which Ceylon recruiting will be forced to extend. The difficulty which remains to be discussed is that of moving these conservative agricultural people to better their condition by emigration, and the parallel difficulty of inducing the conservative planter to attempt new methods of inducing immigration. This subject will be treated in a further issue of the *Gazette*.

[EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORTS OF THE LABOUR COMMISSIONER
AND HIS ASSISTANTS.]

Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly, 18th January, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

Dear Sir,

I enclose extract from the Inspection Report of the Narmal Agency recently made by the Deputy Commissioner, Salem Circle.

With regard to his recommendations, I would ask you to impress upon the Superintendents who have labour connections in this part of the country to send over as many kanganies and coolies to recruit as possible and without delay.

Yours faithfully,

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

* * * * *

GENERAL INFORMATION.

I am very pleased indeed with the progress shown by this Agent since my last visit. I consider there is a big future before this Agency, and confidently expect a large increase in the number of coolies despatched during the current year as compared with last year. As far as can be seen at present recruiting prospects for the ensuing season, starting from February, are excellent, and these estates having labour connections in this part of the country are strongly advised to send over as many good kanganies and coolies to recruit as possible, and without delay.

(Signed) H. FARQUHARSON,
Dupty Commissioner.

Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly, 18th January, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

Dear Sir,

I enclose for the information of your Committee an extract from the Inspection Report of the Deputy Commissioner, Salem Circle, on Atur Agency.

Yours faithfully,

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

A. R.

(Copy.)

* * * * *

GENERAL INFORMATION.

The remarks made in my last report on this Agency hold good. There is very little doing at present owing to the Pongul Festival, but in about a week's time coolies are likely to commence coming in. Estates having connections in this part of the country are advised to send over recruiting kangannies and coolies now.

(Signed) H. FARQUHARSON,
Deputy Commissioner.

Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly, 25th January, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

Dear Sir,

I append below for your information an extract from the Inspection Report of my Deputy Commissioner in charge of Salem Circle about Dharmapuri Agency, under heading "General Information."

"I find it is necessary to modify somewhat the opinion given in my last report regarding the popularity of Ceylon in the surrounding villages. At several villages which I visited today I was brought up against a strong feeling of distrust, evidently due to stories of coolies who had been cheated by kangannies. At one large village in which a Bibile Estate kangany was recruiting there was a great deal of poverty. Coolies were only earning from 1½ to 2 annas a day, eking out their livelihood by loans obtained from the local landowners, and yet were very shy of going to Ceylon and comparative wealth. They told me that in the past coolies had been from their village and had never returned, and were firmly convinced that kangannies took coolies across only to sell them as slaves. Before I left I did my best to disabuse their minds and only quote this as a case in point. Of course this distrustful attitude is not general, but it is there and is doing a vast amount of harm.

"I find no reason to modify the opinion given in my last report of recruiting prospects which are good always, provided there is a sufficiency of recruiting kangannies."

Yours faithfully,
H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

(Copy.)

QUARTERLY REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER, 1912.

I am glad to be able to report good progress during the three months under review. The agencies of this Circle have, during this period, despatched 1,230 coolies as against 694 during the same quarter of 1911, and these figures speak for themselves.

I took charge of this Circle on the 14th October, and between that date and the end of December I have been in camp 34 days, during which time I have travelled 1,562 miles by railway, 556 by motor and 21 on foot. I have completed 12 Agency inspections, visited 65 villages and looked up 19 recruiting kangannies in their villages. During the remainder of the time I was at Salem supervising the

working of the Agency at that place and attending to correspondence.

SALEM DISTRICT.—The success which has attended the experimental opening of four subsidiary agencies in the above district is most marked. These four agencies were started at Namakal, Dharmapuri, Attur and Krishnagiri late in 1911; in 1912 the Salem district despatched no less than 3,375 coolies to Ceylon against only 1,400 the previous year.

A bad outbreak of plague, chiefly in the Hosur and Krishnagiri Taluqs, has undoubtedly caused the figures of recruiting for the year to be smaller than they would otherwise have been. I am glad to say the plague is now far less severe, and as the Railway construction work on the Dharmapuri-Hosur Extension, which created a brisk local demand for labour, is now nearing completion, we should do better in these two Taluqs in the present year.

MYSORE.—The bad reports about Ceylon brought across by returned emigrants in 1911, to which a great deal of publicity was given by the Local Press, did a lot of harm to Ceylon's recruiting in this State. We are slowly recovering from this set-back, and I have hopes that the year 1913 will show a good increase in recruiting figures as against 1912. I cannot say that recruiting prospects are particularly bright but they are fair, and if only those estates who already have Canarese connections would send men over to recruit they should have no difficulty in getting coolies. At present there are very few kangannies working in Mysore, and unless more men are sent over to recruit my optimistic forecast regarding the recruiting prospects in Mysore is not likely to be fulfilled.

DHARWAR DISTRICT.—The above district is a comparatively new recruiting ground for Ceylon and has yet to be worked up a lot. The class of coolies available is chiefly the Telugu and Canarese speaking class to be found in the Mahratta country. So far only one or two estates have attempted to work this new field, but one estate which has taken a lot of trouble to establish new connections in this district has met with marked success. It would pay Superintendents to visit this district, but they should be prepared for uphill work.

BELLARY AND ANANTAPUR DISTRICTS.—My remarks as to the Dharwar district apply equally to these two districts.

GENERAL REMARKS.—On the whole I consider that the recruiting prospects in my Circle for the year 1913 are excellent, and it is to be hoped that estates will take advantage of this fact to send over sufficient men to recruit early in the year. The stamping out of the "Professional Recruiter" evil will do a lot of good. The good name of Ceylon, which has suffered a lot through coolies returning to their villages with stories of having been saddled with large and unjust debts, is likely to improve in future now the two great evils; recruiters, commissions and passages are no longer charged up to coolies.

For returned emigrants to bring back to their villages money and good reports of the country to which they have been, is undoubtedly the finest form of advertisement, and it is here that, in the past, the Straits Settlements have had an advantage over us. Frequently in the course of my camping work I come across coolies who have been to "Penang" and returned with savings and good reports of the place, but it is seldom that I have the same experience with coolies who have returned from Ceylon.

A branch of my work to which I attach the greatest importance is the looking up of recruiting kanganyes in their villages. Very little of this was done in previous years, and I feel sure that the systematic visiting of kanganyes will do an immense amount of good. Hitherto once a kangany got to his village he did much as he pleased (and his pleasure usually took the form of a holiday), but now, never knowing when he may be looked up and made to give an account of himself, he finds he has to work. The two Travelling Agents who are to be appointed to this Circle will assist me greatly in this branch of the work, and I feel sure their appointment will be well justified by results.

In conclusion, I am pleased to be able to report that estate complaints against the Agents of this Circle, which had been previously numerous, have practically ceased since my arrival.

(Signed) H. FARQUHARSON,
Deputy Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

REPORT FOR FORTNIGHT ENDING 15TH JANUARY, 1913.

During the fortnight under review I have been in camp nine days, during which time I have travelled—

By Motor ... 252 miles
By Foot ... 14 "

I have inspected 2 agencies, visited 35 villages and looked up in their villages 9 kanganyes.

I have no reason to modify my previous optimistic reports regarding the prospects of recruiting for the ensuing season.

The 1912 crops were fairly good, but as there has not been sufficient rain in December it is more than likely that the future crops will not be good.

It is a great pity that more kanganyes are not sent over to recruit at this, the best, time of year.

I look forward with interest to the result of the opening of the two new trial agencies at Nanjangud and Sholapur or Hotgi, which however cannot be expected to show good results for some time to come, as it takes time for a new agency to become known.

The appointment of Travelling Agents will, I am sure, be well justified both as regards their work of advertising and the work of looking up kanganyes in the villages. To the latter branch of their work I attach particular importance, as although I try to devote as much time as possible to this work it is impossible for me to look up more than a very small percentage of the kanganyes who are recruiting.

(Signed) H. FARQUHARSON,
Deputy Commissioner.

PALGHAT CIRCLE.

INSPECTION REPORT, ERODE AGENCY.

* * * * *

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Plague has broken out again in several towns in the Coimbatore district, and this may hinder emigration.

G. C. DUPEN,
Assistant Commissioner.

INSPECTION REPORT, KARUR AGENCY.

* * * * *

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Good crops last year, I am afraid may mean a decrease in coolies this year, most of the cultivation round about

Karur is wet land, and there is usually work for the coolies all the year.

(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,
Assistant Commissioner.

Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly, 12th December, 1912.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

Dear Sir,

I annex for your information copy of a report made by my Assistant Commissioner, Palghat Circle, on recruiting in the Erode District.

"GENERAL INFORMATION.—The amount of coolies registered in this Agency this year has decreased. The Agent informs me that the reason is that owing to coolies from the Coimbatore district having to be under plague observation for six days on their arrival at Trichy, kanganyes now often take their coolies to be registered at Dindigul. I questioned two kanganyes about this, and they told me that it was a fact. I gather that though for some time Kollegal was the only taluk that was plague infected, yet coolies from any part of the Coimbatore district had to undergo quarantine. The Agent told me that he had brought this to the notice of the Head Office some time ago.

"Whilst at Erode I saw all the kanganyes that were there and questioned them as to what they were doing. A separate report will be sent in duplicate about them."

Yours faithfully,
A. E. DONALDSON,
for Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

(Copy.)

CAMPING REPORT FOR DECEMBER, 1912.

I left Palghat at 9-10 a.m. by motor cycle for Ottapallam, a distance of 22½ miles, on the way I stopped at Parli and Pathripoliam and distributed notices and talked with several of the inhabitants of the villages. Most of the villages along this road are inhabited by Maplahs, who I gather are not wanted by many estates in Ceylon.

11th December, 1912.—Remained at Ottapallam. I endeavoured to find two kanganyes who were supposed to be in this place, but found they had left. I had a large number of notices distributed in the village. I have not interviewed any of the village officials during this camp, as I know Malabar so well that I do not find it necessary to question them about crops or recruiting prospects.

12th December, 1912.—I motored from Ottapallam to Pattambi, a distance of 14½ miles. I stopped at one village named Vaniakolam and distributed notices. All the other villages are peopled for Maplahs. In Malabar the people as a rule do not live in villages like they do in other parts of India, but their houses are scattered all over the country, each person having his own little compound and house, the best way to get at the people is to arrange one's camp so as to be at a place when the weekly bazaar is held, this I endeavoured to do as much as possible, people come from miles to attend these bazaars.

13th December, 1912.—I remained at Pattambi. I distributed notices in the village, this is not a good place for coolies, as it is chiefly inhabited by Maplahs, though notices when distributed get scattered about the country.

14th December, 1912.—Pattambi to Angardipuram, distance 15 miles. I gave several notices to the people at the toll-gate at the river crossing, I invariably give a lot of notices to the toll-gate men, as so many people pass through the toll and congregate about it.

15th December, 1912.—I remained at Angardipuram. It was the weekly bazaar day, this is one of the biggest bazaars in this part of the Malabar, several thousand people attend it from all parts. I had a large number of notices distributed. I tried to find a kangany who was on my register and supposed to be in this village, but found he had left the place.

16th December, 1912.—I motored from Angardipuram to Malapuram, distance 12 miles, there are no villages along the road. Distributed notices in the town.

17th December, 1912.—Malapuram to Kundotti, distance 15 miles. Kundotti is a large town, but the inhabitants are mostly Maplahs. I had notices distributed.

18th December, 1912.—Remained at Kundotti. I had a large number of notices distributed also to-day in this town.

19th December, 1912.—Kundotti to Calicut by motor cycle, distance 19 miles. I stopped at Ferok and Kallal and distributed notices, I also gave the men at the different toll-gates notices.

20th December, 1912.—I remained at Calicut. This is the most important town on the West coast, its population consisting mostly of Tiyyas, Iruvas and Maplahs, there are also a large proportion of Cherumars, the latter being excellent estate coolies, though, being more or less bondmen to the large landlords, they are difficult to get. On both days whilst at Calicut I had large number of notices distributed.

21st December, 1912.—I went from Calicut to Palghat by train. Whilst at Calicut, I stayed with District Judge.

Distance travelled by Motor Cycle	... 97
Do by Train	... 83
Total	... 180

Remarks on the Camp.—A good deal of this camp has been over country chiefly populated by Maplahs, though there is a large percentage of other castes scattered about the country, a Maplah is not a *persona grata* for estate work in Ceylon or Straits, but in his own country he is much appreciated both for road and estate works, most of the labour employed on the Rubber estates in South India is composed of Maplahs, and the planters speak very well of them.

Of the places I have stopped at I can recommend Ottapalam, Angardipuram, Ferok, Kallal and Calicut as good recruiting grounds, though Chirakal Taluq in North Malabar is the best place for Malayalam labour; an Agency is being shortly opened at Cannanore, which I think will be a success.

Superintendents in Ceylon who intend employing Malayalam labour should, if possible, in every case put a Malayalee kangany in charge of his coolies, the Malayalee likes to keep to himself and work with, and be managed by his own people. The Nair caste should never be sent to Ceylon.

(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly, 9th January, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

Dear Sir,

I annex for your information extract from my Assistant Commissioner, Palghat Circle, report on Dindigul Agency.

"The Agent has been at Dindigul since the Agency was opened in October, 1904, since that the registration of coolies has increased yearly, this year (1912) having been the best up to date, the increase being over 1,000. The Agent anticipates a further increase in 1913. I believe coolies from the Madura district are appreciated in Ceylon. Since I have been in charge of this Agency I have been pleased with the way the work has been carried out."

Yours faithfully,
H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly, 21st January, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

FEEDING ARRANGEMENTS AT TUTICORIN FOR INCOMING
KANGANIES AND COOLIES.

Dear Sir,

I have to inform you that I am supplying to-day to the estates in Ceylon Duplicate Card Tickets for the use of the incoming kanganies and coolies. As soon as the Superintendents use the cards the arrangements for the reception and catering of the incoming kanganies and coolies will come into being.

I enclose a specimen Card Ticket in duplicate and memorandum form for your information.

Yours faithfully,
H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly, 27th January, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

Dear Sir,

I enclose for the information of your Committee an extract from my Inspection Report on Tanjore Agency.

Yours faithfully,
H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

MEMORANDUM.

INCOMING COOLIES FROM CEYLON.
Trichinopoly, 1st January, 1913.

Completed arrangements have been made on this side for the reception and catering of the incoming kanganies and coolies from Ceylon to recruit coolies. I enclose a specimen Duplicate Card Ticket, which should be filled in and handed to kanganies and coolies coming to the coast. The Ceylon Labour Commission Jetty Agent will go on board ship every day to meet the coolies, and prior to disembarkation this official will take a tally of the coolies holding these tickets in order to arrange the number of meals and railway tickets required; he will conduct them through the Customs and take them to the recognised feeding depot. He will see that the coolies are properly fed and given good water and will then entrain them, having previously purchased the necessary tickets, to their various destinations.

I am sending herewith tickets, and further supply on application will be provided by the Ceylon Labour Commissioner, Trichinopoly.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

There had been good rains in the district. Crop prospects are bright. Rates pay 4 annas for men, 3 annas for women. Rice is dear by measures per rupee. Prospect of recruiting for 1913 is fair. Good number of coolies come over from Ceylon for the good harvest and take back their relations.

No. A. 726.

THE SECRETARY,

Planters' Association of Ceylon,

Kandy.

RECRUITING PROSPECTS.

Dear Sir,

I forward herewith for the information of your Committee copies of Reports received from my Deputy and

Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly, 14th February, 1913.

Assistant Commissioners on the Recruiting Prospects for the month of January, 1913. Report on Recruiting Prospects in Commissioner's Circle is also enclosed.

Yours faithfully,

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,

Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Encl. 5, A. R.

Palghat Circle. MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JANUARY, 1913.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas	Annas.		
Coimbatore ...	Erode ...	Fair	3 to 4	2-6 to 3	{ Poor until the harvest is over.	There is a Plague in Palladam, Avanashi, Tiruppur, Udumalpet and Pollachi and surrounding villages.
	Bhavani ...					
	Gobichettypoliem ...					
	Satyamangalam ...					
	Palladam ...					
	Peria Dhara-puram ...					
	Avanashi ...					
	Udumalpet ...					
	Pollachi ...					
	Kollegal ...					

(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,
January 31st, 1913.

Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Madura Circle.

Madura ...	{ Dindigul ... Palani ... }	Fair	5 per day	2-6 per day.	Good	The Agent says that up to the 26th instant 135 coolies were registered, and he expects more before the end of the month. It is harvest time now and most of the people are working in the fields.
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(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,
January 31st, 1913.

Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Trichinopoly Circle.

Trichinopoly ...	{ Karur ...	Fair	4 per day	2-6 per day.	Poor, the population working in the fields harvesting.	There is also a good deal of wet land cultivation round about Karur which employs labour all the year round.
Coimbatore ...	{ Dharapuram ... }					

(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,
January 31st, 1913.

Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Malabar Circle.

Malabar ...	{ Palghat ... Walawanad ... Calicut ... Chirakkal ... Ponnani ... Kottayam ... Ernad ... Kurumbranad ... }	Good	3 to 5	2 to 2-6	Good	The new agency at Canuanoore should be the means of many more Malayalees going to Ceylon.
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(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,
January 31st, 1913.

Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Trichy Circle.

Trichinopoly ...	{ Musiri ... Kulitalai ... Perambalora ... }	Fair	4	2	Not favourable	
		do	3 to 4	1½		
		do	6	3		

Trichinopoly Circle. MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JANUARY, 1913.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Tanjore	Tanjore	...				
	Kumbakonam	...				
	Negapatam	...				
	Nannilam	...				
	Papanasam	...				
	Mayaveram	...				
	Shiyali	...				
	Thiruturaipondi	...				
	Mannargudi	...				
		Fair to good	5	4	Not favourable	The recruiting prospects for this month has not been good as the harvesting season is still continuing.
Puducottah	Tirumayam	...	Bad	...	Fair	
State	Alangudi	...	Fair	4	3	Good
	Keeranur	...	Good	...	Fair	

Madura Circle.

Madura	...	Fair	7 to 8	3 to 5	Fair	The harvesting of crops is going on everywhere, and until this is over there is little change of a large number of coolies coming in, although everything points to this being a very successful year for recruiting.
Ammapatnam	...	do	4 to 5	3 to 4	do	
Tondi	...	Good	4 to 6	3 to 4	Not good	
Pamban	...	do	4 to 6	2 to 3	Poor	
Tinnevely	...	Fair	3½ to 4	2½ to 3	Fair	
Tataparai	...	Good	4 to 6	3 to 4	do	

(Signed) W. FERGUSON,
Asst. C. L. Commissioner.

Chittoor Circle.

Chittoor	...	{	Chittoor	...	{	Paddy fair	Indifferent	The bulk of the harvest will be in February, but here and there harvesting will be carried into March.
			Ragi good	...	...	Fair		
			Kalahasti	...	{	Paddy fair	
						Ragi good	
Puthoor Tiruthani	...	{	Karvatinagar	...	do	4 to 5	2 to 3	Fair	The present harvest seems decidedly a good one, and the second crops also look promising.	
			Palmanari	...	do	Cumboo		do
					Good	...	...	do
			Punganur	...	do	...	...	do
			Chandragiri	...	do	...	...	Indifferent
			Vayalpad	...	do	...	...	Bad
			Medanapalli	...	do	...	...	do

TAMIL DISTRICTS.

North Arcot...	Vellore	...	Paddy and Ragi good		Bad	In Chinglepet and North Arcot crops are excellent.
	Gudiyatam	...	do			
	Walaja	...	do			
	Polur	...	do	4 to 5	2 to 3	Indifferent
	Tirupathur	...	do			General recruiting may be later here.
	Arcot	...	do			
	Arni	...	do			
	Tiruvannamalai	...	do			
	Wandawash	...	do		do Bad	

Chitoor Circle. MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JANUARY, 1913.

District.	Talug.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Chingleput	Chingleput	Good	...	...	Fair	
	Conjeevaram	do	...	...	do	
	Madurantakam	do	...	...	do	
	Ponnari	do	...	...	do	
	Saidapet	do	...	...	do	
	Tiruvalloor	do	...	...	do	
S. Arcot	Villupuram	Paddy poor				In S. Arcot recruiting should begin much earlier than average.
		Groundnut good	5	3	Fair	
	Cuddalore	do	...	...	do	The crops here are chiefly groundnuts, and this harvest is nearing completion already.
	Virudachalam	Paddy good	...	...	do	
		Groundnut nearly all in.	...	...	do	
	Sidambaram	do	...	...	do	
	Tirukollur	do	5	3	do	
	Kallakurichi	do	...	...	do	
	Tindivanam	do	...	...	do	
	Gingee	do	...	...	do	

TELUGU DISTRICTS.

Vizagapatam	Ankapalli	Cholam, Cumbo & paddy fair	...	...		Vizagapatam chiefly dry crops which appear to be fairly successful, though rain fall was disappointing.
	Yelamancheri	do	...	...
	Vizianagaram	do	...	...
	Cheeparapallai	do	4	3	Fair	
	Beemadupattam	do	...	...
	Gajapatinokam	do	...	...
	Palenda	do	...	...
	Bobili	do	...	...
	Parvatipuram	do	...	...
	Peddapur	do	6	3	Fair	
Godavari	Ramachandrapur	do	6	3		Recruiting Prospects really rather indifferent here. Crops excellent.
	Amalapur	do	...	...
	Tinni	do	...	...
	Coconada	do	6	3	do	
	Pithapuram	do	...	...
	Rajamandry	do	...	...
Godavari	Guntur	Cholam and Cumbo good	...	...	Indifferent	Crops are generally good, but harvest will be finished by end of February. Recruiting should begin earlier here, I think.
	Satnapally	do	...	...	do	
	Narasarowpet	do	...	...	do	
	Venkonda	do	...	...	do	
	Gurizala	do	4 to 5	3 to 4	do	
Guntur	Bapatha	Paddy good	...	...	Bad	
	Repallai	do	...	...	do	
	Fenali	do	...	...	do	
	Sullampet	do	0-3-6	0-2-6	Fair	
	Venkatakiri	do	do	do	do	
	Koour	do	do	do	do	

Chittoor Circle. MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JANUARY, 1913.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Nellore	Kavali	... Paddy Good	4	3	Good	In Nellore and Cuddapah I think the crops are considered better than usual.
	Udayapur	... do	0-3-6	0-2-6	Fair	
	Kandakur	... do	4	3	do	
	Nellore	... do	4 to 6	2½ to 3	Good	
	Raipur	... do	0-3-6	0-2-6	Fair	General recruiting will begin later than usual in these districts.
	Kanigiri	... do			do	
	Podili	... do			do	
	Dharsi	... do			do	
	Gudur	... Cholam, Indigo good	4	3	Good	
Cuddapah	Cuddaph	... Fair	4	2	Bad	Indifferent
	Pullampet	... do				
	Sidhaut	... Moderate	3			
	Badrel	... do				
	Peddatur	... Fair	6	2	Bad	Indifferent
	Jamlandyur	... do	3	2		
	Pulwandla	... do				
	Raychoty	... do				
	Kamlapuram	... do			do	
(Signed) J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,						
Asst. Commissioner,						Chittoor Circle.
Salem	Salem	... Fair	4	2½	Bad	On account of harvest will probably be good next month.
	Omair	... do		2	Fair	
	Uttankarai	... do				
	Hasur	... do	4	2	Bad	A sparsely populated taluk with a local demand for labour for Railway construction work.
	Krishnagiri	... Not good	3	1½	Good	
	Trichengode	... Fair	3	2	Fair	
	Dharmapuri	... Not good	3	2	Good	
	Atur	... Fair	3	2	Fair	
Trichy	Namakkal	... Fair	4	2½	Fair	Will improve after groundnut harvesting is over.
Chittoor	Tirupatur	... Fair	3	2	Fair	
Dharwar	Hubli	... Bad	3	2	Good	
	Gadag	... do	do	do		
	Navalagunta	... do	do	do		
Bombay Presidency	Narguntha	... do	do	do		
	Siggavi	... do	do	do		
	Havagal	... do	do	do		
Dharwar Bombay Presidency	Ranibennur	... Bad	3	2	Good	
	Havary	... do				
	Heray Kaydur	... do				
Bellary	Bellary	... Fair	3	2	Fair	
	Rotadoorg	... do	do	do	do	
	Adhoni	... do	do	do	do	
	Hospet	... do	do	do	do	

Salem Circle. MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JANUARY, 1913.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
Anantapur	Anantapur	Fair	3	2	Fair	
	Dharmavaram	do	do	do	do	
	Gooty	do	do	do	do	
	Tadpatri	do	do	do	do	
Mysore	Bangalore	Fair	4	2	Fair	
	Mysore	do	do	do	do	
	Kolar	do	do	do	do	
	Tunkur	do	do	do	do	
	Hassan	do	do	do	Bad	Near Mysore Estates
	Shimoga	do	4	2	Fair	
	Kadur				Bad	Near Mysore Estates
	Chitaldroog					

NOTE.—Speaking generally of the recruiting prospects in my Circle just at present many coolies cannot be expected owing to the local demand for labour for harvesting crops. From the middle of February, however, when most of the crops will have been gathered, there are good prospects for recruiting, provided sufficient kanganyas are sent across for this purpose.

(Signed) H. FARQUHARSON,
Deputy Commissioner,
Salem Circle.

COAST AGENCY IN 1912.

During the year 1912, 93,912 coolies passed through the Agency to Ceylon as compared with 72,549 coolies in 1911, an increase of 23 per cent.

Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly, 10th February, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

Dear Sir,

I enclose for the information of your subscribers extract from the Inspection Report of Villupuram Agency received from the Assistant Commissioner, in charge of Chittoor Circle, under the heading "General Information."

Yours faithfully,
H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

* * * *

Copy.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

I believe this Agency will do very well again this year. There is a surprising amount of labour to be had. As the groundnut crops are nearly all in kanganyas should make a beginning here almost at once.

(Signed) J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,
Assistant Commissioner.

Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly, 7th February, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

Dear Sir,

I enclose for your information copy of the Camping Report of the Deputy Commissioner in charge of Salem Circle for the fortnight ending 31st January, 1913.

Yours faithfully,
H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

SALEM CIRCLE.**REPORT FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING 31ST JANUARY, 1913.**

During the fortnight under review I have been in camp 11 days, during which time I have travelled by Rail 102 miles and by Motor 166 miles. I have visited 20 villages, inspected 2 Agencies and looked up 1 kangany in his village. I have also made all arrangements for the opening of the new Agency at Nanjangode as from 1st February.

I have further completed arrangements which will enable my two Travelling Agents to make an energetic start in their work early in February, and await with great interest their periodical reports.

Most of the crops have been harvested and the flow of coolies has commenced. I am glad to see that a good number of kanganyas are now coming across from Ceylon for recruiting purposes, but would like to see a great many more sent across to take advantage of the present good recruiting prospects.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) H. FARQUHARSON,
Deputy Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Ceylon Labour Commission,
Trichinopoly, 13th February, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

Dear Sir,

HUBLI AGENCY.

I enclose for your information extract from a Report dated 10th instant received from my Deputy Commissioner, Salem Circle, about his inspection of Hubli Agency under heading "General Information."

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

* * *

Copy.

Hubli Agency,
10th February, 1913.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

During the year 1912, 322 coolies have been despatched through this Agency as against only 108 in the previous year. There have however been a great many cases of coolies bolting en route to Trichy, and this I attribute chiefly to an inefficient Agent. Here as at Guntakal a certain percentage of the coolies registered are Mahrattis, and it would be interesting to learn how this class of labour is doing on those estates who have tried the experiment. They are of fine physique and are not averse to emigrating with their families, but before opening any new Agencies in the Mahratta country it would be as well to ascertain how those already sent across are doing. "The present Agent has been removed from the service and another man has been posted in his place."

(Signed) H. FARQUHARSON,
Deputy Commissioner.

Ordinance No. 9 of 1909.

BREACH OF THE LABOUR ORDINANCE.

EMPLOYING COOLIES WITHOUT DISCHARGE TICKETS.

THE JUDGMENT.

The following is the judgment delivered by Mr. F. R. Dias, District Judge of Kandy, in the case in which the Hon. the Government Agent of the Central Province charged one M. P. Muttu, proprietor and superintendent of Haldorawatte estate, Rambukpitiya, with having employed four Tamil coolies without having received discharge tickets on the 6th June, 1912:—The accused is the proprietor and superintendent of a tea estate called Haldorawatte, and he is charged with employing four Indian labourers in June, 1912, without obtaining discharge tickets from their last employer, the superintendent of Barton estate, in violation of section 23 (2) of Ordinance 13 of 1889, as amended by Ordinance No. 9 of 1909. The evidence proves that these four coolies and some others left Barton estate on the 1st March without obtaining discharge tickets from Mr. Jenkyns, their superintendent. It would appear, however, that on the 3rd March, two days after they left the estate, they gave Mr. Jenkyns notice that they were quitting the estate forthwith because their wages had not been paid as required by the Ordinance, and they also sued him in the Matale Court for their wages and got them. On the demand of their proctor Mr. Jenkyns also issued to them a memorandum in Form IV., certifying that the above notice had been given, so that a new employer had only to write to Mr. Jenkyns for discharge tickets, and he was bound to issue them forthwith. For some reason known only to the accused, and which he has not elected to disclose, he took these four coolies into his employment, but did not apply for the discharge tickets. Mr. Jenkyns personally went with his head kangany to the accused's estate on the 6th June, and found three of these coolies actually plucking and weighing in leaf. I have no doubt whatever from the evidence of the arachy and of the kangany that it was on a portion of accused's estate that they were found working.

So far as I understand the defence the suggestion is that, if these coolies were seen working at all, it must have been on some one else's tea land, but this is no more than a mere suggestion. The fact, however, remains that the accused had identified himself with these Barton coolies in or about the time in question, for as soon as Mr. Jenkyns traced the coolies to the accused's estate, and complained to the Government Agent about their illegal employment, the accused on the 20th July wrote to Mr. Jenkyns for the first time asking for discharge tickets. This sufficiently corroborates the evidence of Mr. Jenkyns and of his kangany, but in June the accused was actually employing the coolies on his estate. I must, therefore, find him guilty of the charge made against him under section 23 (2) of Ordinance 13 of 1889, and sentence him to pay a fine of Rs. 100 or undergo imprisonment for one month. If he had candidly pleaded guilty and explained the circumstances under which he acted in this matter, I might have considered his offence only a technical one, which did not deserve so heavy a fine.

A NUWARA ELIYA CASE.

The case against Mr. A. V. Croning, Superintendent of Marigold, instituted by the Government Agent, Mr. Saxton, in November last, was tried yesterday at Nuwara Eliya. Mr. Carl Modder conducted the case for the Crown, Proctors Ernest Jonklaas and J. Aiyadurai defended the accused. The trial taken up at 10 a.m., was adjourned at 12 noon. Case for the prosecution was then closed. Mr. Earnest Jonklaas then outlined the case for the defence stating that the whole case was engineered by Mr. Graham Clarke, and that the Government Agent at Kandy had no right to refuse the correspondence he was summoned to produce, on the ground that the correspondence was privileged. The court adjourned at 12-15 p.m. and re-sat at 1-45 p.m. The defence were going to call a large gang of coolies, and Mr. Graham Clarke, but changed their mind and put Mr. Croning into the box. After a short examination of that witness, who was cross-examined briefly, the case for the defence was then closed. The judge found Mr. Croning guilty of having made a false declaration to the Government Agent in March last, which he stated was a serious offence, and fined him Rs. 250 for that offence, and further fined him Rs. 25 for failing to pay coolies their wages into their own hands. Mr. Croning was charged with committing these offences in March and May. The court did not make any finding in regard to May, evidently disbelieving one of the witnesses. The defendant has appealed against the finding.

MR. CRONING'S CONVICTION UPHELD IN APPEAL.

FOR SENDING FALSE RETURNS AND NON-PAYMENT OF WAGES.

To day before Mr. Justice Wood Renton was a Nuwara Eliya case: the Hon. Mr. G. S. Saxton, G.A. C.P., charged Mr. A. V. Croning, Superintendent of Marigold, Maturata, with sending false returns as to payment of wages to coolies for March, April and May, 1912

and with failing to pay the coolies their wages for those months. The Magistrate fined accused Rs. 250, for false returns, and Rs. 30 for non-payment of wages. Mr. H. J. C. Pereira for accused; Mr. W. S. de Saram, C.C., for respondent.

His Lordship held that the facts amply supported the conviction on both charges. Accused's conduct deserved the severest censure and punishment, and his appeal was dismissed.

MR. PATTERSON'S SCHEME.

The Scheme evolved by Mr. J. Sheridan Patterson for dealing with coolie advances has been printed before, but we make no apology for printing it again. Not that it is perfect; if it were perfect it would in all probability have been adopted long ago; but because it is a genuine thoughtful attempt to get to the bottom of one of our most pressing problems. The question has got to be faced. It is useless to shirk the matter. It will not settle itself. If the Planters' Association fails to handle the problem with firmness and ability, and if the Labour Federation fails to take up the burthen dropped by the Planters' Association, the Government will step in and do for us what we could not agree to do for ourselves, and that is to relieve our labour force of its present burthen of debt. The present writer does not fear legislation on this point, indeed he courts it, but it cannot be denied that we shall be in a better position to demand our say in that legislation if it comes, and it seems imminent, if we have first exhausted our own resources in the endeavour to set our house in order. It is common knowledge that Sir Hugh Clifford thought that the time for legislation was already ripe when he left the Island. It is not to be expected that a new Governor and a new Colonial Secretary will be so ready to tackle a problem which presents many points of difficulty. And we have a new breathing space. All the more reason to reprint a Scheme containing so much that is ingenious. It is hoped that the correspondence columns of our next issue may contain valuable contributions on this subject, and for the moment we will be content with a few observations on some points that seem difficult. First of all, would not the average superintendent find a very great difficulty in ascertaining from his coolies exactly what portion of each debt was "Personal" and what portion "Incurred?" The coolie is a poor accountant. And secondly, there is a paragraph coming under the heading "The Costs of Recruitment," which states "The on-taking estate, &c.....his accounts." This seems a little dangerous. If the coolie realizes that by taking out his tundu he thereby becomes immediately quit of the whole of his "incurred debt," would he not be inclined to ask for his tundu with that immediate end in view rather than be satisfied to stay and work on while the "incurred debt" was amortized by five annual instalments of 20% each!

It has already been suggested as an amendment to this that advances should be reduced, if reduced they must be, in a progressive fraction. So far as we recollect the idea originated with Mr. Wallace Westland. The idea, broadly speaking, was this: to wipe off in the first year one-fifth of the debt, in the next year one-fourth of the

remainder, in the following year one-third, and so on until extinction. In the event of a coolie transferring his services before the extinction of his debt, he would start afresh under his new employer and be entitled only to a reduction of the smallest fraction. This would probably tend towards a greater stability of conditions than would this clause of Mr. Patterson's Scheme.

With these few remarks we commend the Scheme to the attention of our readers and cordially invite their criticisms either constructive or destructive, but preferably the former.

A SCHEME FOR DEALING WITH COOLIE ADVANCES.

It is acknowledged that the existing system of showing coolie advances as Debts Recoverable, as an Asset, is financially unsound and misleading.

The scheme outlined below is intended to remedy the evil that has year by year become more acute, and to gradually put this right, not abruptly which would cause inconvenience in many ways, but gradually by the process of time, and at the same time with but a slight addition to the existing Ordinance.

A date should be fixed—say some six months ahead—by which time all existing advances should be looked into by Estate Superintendents, and the latter must divide the existing debt into:—

PERSONAL DEBT (referred to in column B. in the annexed plan) this being the amount admitted by the coolie to be the actual advance he has received, and therefore his true debt.

INCURRED DEBT (referred to in column A. in the annexed plan) being the amount hitherto charged to the coolie over and above Personal Debt, and which has been charged according to custom.

These amounts, once defined, must be entered by the Superintendent in the Register, as per plan attached.

In the case of coolies going to an estate after the date fixed for the adoption of the scheme, the total advance should be divided into three heads:—

(1) **PERSONAL DEBT.**—Viz., amount admitted by the coolie as actually received by him (shown under column B).

(2) **COSTS OF RECRUITMENT.**—Viz., travelling expenses of coolie to the estate and recruiter's commission—(shown under column C).

(3) **INCURRED DEBT.**—Viz., all other charges beyond those under headings B. & C.—(shown under column A).

It should be compulsory for all estates to keep a Register as per plan attached, in which the disbursements should be set out under the headings described.

THE INCURRED DEBT (column A.) is to be amortized by 20 % each year until extinction, providing the coolie remains on the estate for the full five years.

THE PERSONAL DEBT (column B.) to be dealt with by deductions from the coolies' monthly pay in the manner followed at present and in accordance with the existing Ordinance.

For the working of this system, it is desirable that recoveries from monthly balances should be allowable as provided for in Ordinance No. 9 of 1909. The only fresh legislation required to insure the proper working of this scheme would be an addition to Sub-section 22 of Ordinance No. 9 of 1909, making it the duty of every employer of Tamil labour to prepare by a fixed date, and keep accurately, a complete Register of debts under the headings

Register of Debts of Kanganies, Coolies & Families Employed on Estate.

[illegible]

N. B.—b 1 to 5 show the balance of Personal Debt as taken from individual Pass-Books at the end of each year—A. & C. will disappear at the end of 5 years leaving only the 'B' balance as then shown in b 5 Column.

suggested, and that after the first entering up (on the adoption of this system), the amounts under Incurred Debt (A) and costs of Recruitment (C) *can under no circumstances be increased*; and Personal Debts (B) can only be increased by such subsequent cash advances as may be actually paid to the coolie or be reduced by recoveries if made.

It is claimed for this scheme that, while relieving the coolie himself in many cases of an impossible and unjust debt, and making him responsible for only the actual advance he has received, it, at the same time, provides for the extinction over a period of five years, of a large sum of money, misleadingly shown as an Asset in Annual Accounts, though well known by those on this side of the world to be illusory. This end will be achieved without disturbing profits as, on average advances per head in Ceylon, and on average yields per acre, such amortization would only cost one to two cents per lb. on the annual production of tea, and similarly be but a small charge on rubber and other produce.

(Signed) J. S. PATTERSON.

Warwick, Ambawela,

May 8th, 1912.

PLANTERS BUYING PARAVENI PANGUS OF NINDAGAMAS.

LIABLE TO PERFORM RAJAKARIYA TO THE OVERLORDS.

The Chief Justice delivered judgment to-day in a Kegalla case: D. M. Loku Banda, &c., sued Hatana and 13 others, 14th defendant being proprietors of Arandara Rubber estate by their Agent and Superintendent Mr. A. E. Barrs, of Hunugala, alleging defendants' are liable to perform the services appertaining to the pangeuva, viz., to plough and cultivate the muttettu, to cut and gather in the crops, to store the corn and perform all necessary work connected therewith, to carry not more than 100 bundles of straw from the muttettu to the walauwa, to pound five lahas of paddy, to perform any domestic service which may be required by the proprietor, to accompany the proprietor on journeys within the ancienta Kandyan Provinces, to carry his palanquin and his baggage, the whole period of services not exceeding six months in a year. Plaintiffs being the heirs of the Korala, became entitled to the same. From the end of June, 1906, plaintiff estimated his loss and damages at Rs. 50 to Rs. 80 to end of June, 1908, which they claimed. 1st to 13th defendants denied plaintiff's allegation and also their right to claim more than one year's *Rajakariya*. The 14th defendant the Co.—denied all the allegations, but if the other defendants were held liable would be ready to pay the shares. The Commissioner (Mr. Ekanayeka) held that all the defendants were liable, and gave judgment against them for Rs. 25.40 and costs.

His Lordship to-day held defendants were liable to perform *rajakariya*, to the Overlords of the lands and dismissed the appeal with costs.

THE CEYLON MOUNTED RIFLES.

To the courtesy of Lieut.-Colonel E. Gordon Reeves the Editor is indebted for the following interesting article on the Ceylon Mounted Rifles:—

My first attempt to form a Volunteer Corps amongst the Planting Community was not that which resulted in the establishment of the Ceylon M. I. (the present C. M. Rifles). As far back as 1888 I was engaged in trying to obtain support for the formation of a Rifle Corps, and there are somewhere stowed away amongst my papers the circular issued in those far off days, a quarter century back, containing of quite a number of celebrities of the time. I might even say of some of them and for all time: Kelly, Downall, R. A. Galton, Harold Gordon were names which I remember amongst many others appearing on me and are out of the 3 or 4 lists circulated in the principal districts, the majority appear to have taken the idea seriously, but there was quite a lot of pleasantry and wit accompanying some of the subscribers names, as far as I remember it was my old friend Bill Saunders who undertook the charge of the "Big Drum," it was also Saunders who some four years later promised me that the C. M. I. which I had just seen launched would last exactly one year and no longer; well, we have done a bit better than that.

The necessity of leaving the Colony caused the postponement of this earlier attempt.

Towards the end of 1891 I made a fresh start with a proposal to form a Mounted Infantry Corps. This proposal met with strong support from H. E. Sir Arthur Havelock, General Dunham Massy, v.c., and Colonel A. C. Clarke, c.m.g., the Commandant C. V. Force, but both the Governor and the G. O. C. gave it as their opinion that I was on a hopeless quest, at the same time wishing me the best of luck. The Press represented by the "Ceylon Observer," "Times of Ceylon," "The Ceylon Independent" gave its unreserved support from the very first, and this in face of the fact that the major portion of the European Community adopted an attitude either of sitting on the fence or of unqualified opposition accompanied by ridicule. It took some years to live down this attitude, and only the keenest men thought it good enough to stick to their guns in those days.

There was no assistance whatever in the shape of enthusiasm outside of the Official Community and the Press. The Planters' Association, on being approached, thought that there was no particular harm in the movement regarded it with reserved toleration.

That particular attitude towards Volunteering was not however peculiar to Ceylon, it was undoubtedly the fashionable attitude of the day amongst Englishmen in general.

I do not include Scotchmen, and purposely, as they have generally taken a much more commonsense in view of the subject from the first, and Scotchmen have always been to the fore in their support of the C. M. R. In view of the fact that my father was English, my mother is Scotch and many of my relatives Irish, I may perhaps make the above remarks without being held guilty of any national leanings.

The C. M. I. recruits were enrolled at the Orderly Room of the 6th R. W. Regiment on the 12th July, 1892. The number enrolled was about 30 as far as I remember and rose to 60 at the end of the first three months. The members were chiefly grouped about the Kandy, Dickoya and Maskeliya districts, and later on the movement extended to the Kelani Valley, Uva, and still later to Colombo. Although, as I have already stated, there was no public enthusiasm about the establishment of the first mounted

unit in the Colony, there was no lack of enthusiasm amongst the original members, and their few really good friend supporters. What good friends the Corps had in the R. W. Regiment with the C. O. Col. Corse Scott and many of the distinguished Officers Major Forbes Captain (now Colonel) Landon and others, only the original member can realise.

Then again the beginnings of the C. M. R. could not be discussed without frequent mention of the name of Thomas:—M. H. Thomas of Oonagalla and his three keen sons, all of whom went to the front during the South African War, the eldest of whom, Arthur Thomas, was killed in action. I have already mentioned the names of L. H. Kelly and R. B. Downall, who were both personal friends of mine, who were both admitted supporters of the movement, and this in spite of the fact that the Planters' Association as a body would only give a qualified admission as to the virtue of the enterprise. I think the general opinion of those days amongst laymen was that there were no element of stability about Voluntary Service of a Military nature.

The first Commandant under whom the C. M. I. served was Lieut.-Col. Clarke, R.E., and it will be better understood how different was the position which the Volunteer Force in those days occupied the Colony when it is mentioned that the Commandant of the C. V. Force held besides the Office of the Surveyor-General and chief of the Forest Department. It needed a first-class man to put through the work of anyone of those three departments, and undoubtedly Colonel Clarke was not only a gentleman of great ability, but of the most engaging manner, nevertheless the fact of the Commandant being the chief of two important Government Departments necessarily handicapped the Force to a degree not probably then recognised, because the advent of our present Commandant put an entirely new complexion on the possibilities of the Force when sufficient time had been allowed him to get a grip of the situation.

In due course improvements were introduced, and old fashions were bowed out with a combination of so much courtesy and firmness that even the apparently implacable were disarmed and persuaded to accept the new situation created by the gallant officer, who has long since not only identified himself in such an ineffaceable manner with the C. V. F., but has made himself without the least apparent effort, the particular and indispensable friend of every man in the service.

That the Ceylon Volunteer was badly in need of the services of a really good man could scarcely be doubted, but few probably recognised the good fortune which had fallen to the lot of the service when the present Commandant first set his foot in Headquarters.

Amongst the many reforms effected, decentralisation was probably the more important and of comparatively recent date, I think somewhere between 1901 to 1903.

The first equipment of the C. M. I. consisted of the long Martini Rifle and Sword Bayonet, Rifle carried in the deep bucket. This was followed immediately by the Martini Enfield carbine. The Lee enfield long Rifle, finally the shortened Lee Enfield at present in use. Bandoliers were adopted from the first though a slight different pattern from those now worn. The uniforms worn in the first instance consisted of Khaki service dress with blue putties, and for Review Order scarlet serge jacket and white pantaloons and brow leather jack boots. The helmet

worn in those days were of the hideous coal scuttle pattern, now only seen amongst the subordinate ranks of the Convict Establishment. The service dress has remained practically unchanged, with the exception of the adoption of the Wolseley helmet up to the present time, but a change was effected in the Review Order dress somewhere about 1898-99.

This consisted the adoption of a Khaki serge tunic, the pantaloons being of the usual Khaki cord worn in Drill Order. The Review Order dress now worn was a suggestion of my own, a pattern suit was worn by S. M. Bidgood at Darrawella on the occasion of a C. M. R. Gymkhana, at which H. E. Sir Henry McCallum was present and the dress being approved was adopted.

The pattern seems to have been much appreciated, as forms of it were soon after adopted by the C. P. R. C. & C. L. I. in quick succession. The part taken by the Regiment in the South African Campaign is a matter of history too well known to need more than short reference.

The Ceylon M. R. provided the nucleus of a complete Company of 125, which the Colony sent to South Africa as its contribution.

The Company was in command of Capt. Rutherford of the R. D. F., and the C. M. I. Officers who accompanied it from Ceylon were Capt. Murray Menzies and Lieut. Thomas.

It is perhaps necessary now to place on record that the O. C. C. M. I. offered his services, but on understanding that the fact of his being senior to the Officer in Command would complicate matters, and the further fact that he had been reported as ineligible for service owing to deafness necessitated his standing out. It was impossible to express the mortification endured at this time—I will not attempt to do so. But the kind words of sympathy addressed by the then Governor Sir West Ridgeway. "You may console yourself by remembering that the Colony could not have sent a Contingent to S. A. at all had you not been the means of providing the nucleus in the establishment of the C. M. I."—may be placed on record. The splendid record achieved by our Ceylon Contingent is, as I say, too well known to require any further attempt at adornment on my part. The C. M. I. was engaged in the thick of the fighting, commencing with Lord Roberts' advance including the occupation of BLOEMFONTEIN and JOHANNESBURG and PRETORIA, and in many engagements before and subsequent to these capital events.

The losses were heavy, disease and fighting taking their full toll. The former accounted for that cheery soul Sergt. Hopper, Sergt. Cheyne of the Gordon Highlanders also fell a victim to typhoid, Sergt. Hammond was severely wounded at DIAMOND HILL, the first casualty in action. Capt. Balfour Paul (then a Corporal) and Troopers Sturdee and Braithwaite were wounded at NOOTGEDACHT in the TRANSVAAL; in the same action Trooper Kelly, son of our old Chairman L. H. Kelly, was killed. Lieut. Thomas, the eldest of three brothers and sons of the distinguished MADULKELLE Planter and M. L. C., was killed in action in the ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

The casualties to the Colony did not finish here, as my eldest nephew Lieut. G. K. Venning, D.S.O., of the 4th Batty, R.F.A., was killed in action, at which Lord Methuen was taken prisoner when trying to stay the stampede of Yeomanry, and my eldest son Lieut. E. L. Reeves of the 4th Batt. Somerset Light Infantry, who saw service both

in CAPE COLONY on the pursuit of De Wet in the ORANGE FREE STATE, lost his life in endeavouring to cross a flooded river with despatches.

Both these young officers were born in the Colony in EAST MATALE. I think the Colony may be as proud of its share taken in that war, as any other Dominion or Dependency of the British Empire.

The C. M. I. was represented at the DIAMOND JUBILEE of H.M. the late Queen Victoria, and again at the Coronation of H.M. the late King Edward, and was further represented at the Coronation of H.M. King George.

The Regiment has provided escorts for H.I.H. the Archduke of Austria and for H.R.H. The Duke of Cornwall and York, our present Sovereign, on the occasion that H.R.H. presented a Color to the Regiment in recognition of services rendered to the Empire in S. A.

The Regiment also received special permission to wear the P. of W. feather as its badge.

During the Administration of Sir Henry Blake the Regiment was re-organised as "Mounted Rifles," and Sir H. Blake accepted the title of Hony. Colonel.

The Regiment has been inspected by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught and General Sir John French, under whose auspices it was finally established as a Regiment of "Mounted Rifles" with two Squadrons, and this brings this short sketchy record to the present date; a few days after the inspection at KANDY by General Sir Ian Hamilton, under whose command the C. M. I. served for three months in South Africa.

The Corps has been fortunate indeed in having such excellent officers as Capt. Bayley, Paul, and the present Adj. Capt. Stevenson.

No record of the Corps would be complete without a reference to R. S. M. Instr. Bidgood of the 4th R. I. Dragon Guards, whose services have been quite invaluable, and who has gained the sincerest respect of all ranks.

As Commanding Officer of the Corps from its inception to the present time, a period covering the best part of 21 years, I may perhaps be permitted to make a few remarks as a corollary to the above sketch. I should like to point out how fully the C.M.R., and here I should like to add the C. P. R. C. have vindicated their existence. It is now recognised that in the event of any serious outbreak of war in any part of the Empire, this Colony would have to rely to a very great extent on its own resources.

Briefly the Volunteer Forces would have to make good the defence of the Colony.

That being the case I would wish to emphasize the necessity on the part of employers, not only permitting their employés to serve as Volunteers, but of active encouragement to the service.

It is perhaps not out of place here to state that the C. V. Force may roughly be defined as follows:—

Ceylon Light Infantry, say	...	1,000
Ceylon Artillery Volunteers	...	150
Ceylon Engineer Volunteers	...	50
Ceylon Mounted Rifles	...	200
Ceylon Planters Rifle Corps	...	400
Total	...	1,800
Purely Native troops, say	...	800
Leaving purely British and Eurasian		1,000

I am not here to disparage by any means the value of any troops in the world other than British; but as an Englishman I ask my fellow-Colonist whether they think that 1,000 British Eurasian troops with the local 800 auxiliaries are sufficient to defend this Colony against a descent or raid either including or excluding any possible local emeute; or whether they agree with me in thinking that out of a population of some 3,000 to 4,000 available and able-bodied British men at least half should by some means or other be brought under military training and made ready to join either the C. M. R. or C. P. R. C. on mobilisation.

In the British Isles some 300,000 able-bodied willing men are doing their duty to their country and their King, while the rest, say 3 or 4 millions, spend their off time in WATCHING football matches.

In this Colony less than 700 are doing the same service, while some 2,500 or more amuse themselves in any way at their own sweet selfish will; but it is a worse offence to stand out in this Colony or anywhere else in the world where we exist to a great extent amongst aliens.

I am here calculating always on the support of the Eurasian element; but even so the total available Force is absurdly inadequate.

A Force of 1,000 good troops concentrated may be worth a great deal; but distributed over a country the size of IRELAND, what sort of a show would it make.

As General Sir Ian Hamilton most pertinently remarked, "A Force like the C. M. R. and C. P. R. C. cannot be improvised, it requires years to build up." I have the best reasons for knowing that this is true; and knowing also that if it is true of a fighting Force it is true in a comparative measure as applied to the individual fighting man.

WHY DO ABLE-BODIED MEN NEGLECT TO DO THEIR DUTY?

It is not so much, I believe, because they are unpatriotic, as that they have not given their attitude towards the Empire the thought and consideration which it deserves; or again it may be because their employers are labouring under the same disabilities and misdirected considerations.

To those who have not as yet fixed their attitude I would suggest an early date for its fair honest consideration.

For those who have considered and yet decided to follow their own selfish and worthless pursuits regardless of their patriotic duties there are many suitable titles available and at hand for adoption, yet not a single honest one.

For even the poorest to say "I cannot afford to do my service." This is untrue. Because there is ample evidence to the contrary in the ranks of both the C. M. R. and C. P. R. C.

For any planter or merchant or in fact any layman to put forth disability on the score of absence of time or money is therefore manifestly dishonest.

I am speaking plainly on this matter, because nothing but straight speech is anywhere of use.

The time has fully come when honest men must vindicate their honour of doing their part in the matter of National Service. The great Dependencies have recognised this.

Are British born men in this Colony going to recognise their duty and prove themselves worthy of their name?

If not, the sooner they expatriate themselves the better for honest citizens—no one will grudge them even an Alien Peerage paid for in British coin.

In conclusion, the writer regret that the time allowance made to him has prevented his giving anything beyond this very sketchy record of the Corps with which it has been his privilege and a labour of love to serve, and trust that there is at least, as there always may be, in the Colony a sufficient number of true and patriotic British born to maintain the Regiment at a high standard of efficiency.

E. GORDON REEVES, LIEUT.-COL.
COMMANDING C. M. R.,
Wiltshire.

15th December, 1912.



MASKELIYA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

QUESTION OF MECHANICAL TRANSPORT.

LIGHT RAILWAY TO NORWOOD WANTED.

BRANCH LINE TO MASKELIYA FEEDER TO BOGAWANTALAWA.

A general meeting of the Maskeliya Planters' Association was held at Maskeliya Club at 3 p.m. on January 1st, 1913, preceded by a Committee meeting at 2 p.m. Members present at the general meeting included:—Messrs. Hew Kennedy (in the chair), R. Maclure, C. E. Wedd, P. C. Adams, P. H. Unwin, W. H. Brymer, J. B. Cotton, Chas. M. Henry, L. A. Wright, F. O. Sprinks, J. P. Chapman, J. E. Massy, Ran. Rolfe Rogers, S. P. Bell, E. Aufrey, R. B. Harvey, Arthur F. Bantock (visitor), A. P. Jukes, R. Huyshe Eliot (visitor), L. B. Shand and Mr. C. B. Prettejohn (Hon. Secretary).

RESTHOUSE FOR MASKELIYA.

The following correspondence was read:—

Maskeliya Planters' Association,
5th September, 1912.

THE CHAIRMAN,
Provincial Road Committee,
Kandy.

Sir,
At a meeting of the above Association held on August the 14th last, the following resolution was passed:—
"That this Association request that a resthouse be erected in Maskeliya for the benefit of travellers."

Yours faithfully,
C. B. PRETTEJOHN,
Hon. Secretary.

PROPOSED RESTHOUSE AT MASKELIYA.
Provincial Road Committee,
Kandy, 20th September, 1912.

Sir,
Having laid before the Provincial Road Committee your letter of 5th September, 1912, I am directed to forward for the information of your Association, copy of a resolution passed by this Committee on the 14th instant.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) ———,
Secretary.

(Resolution referred to.)

"Resolved to enquire whether the previous resthouse building is available. The Provincial Road Committee cannot afford to build a new resthouse, but the Committee is prepared to consider the question of paying the resthouse keeper's salary if the place is re-opened and run by private enterprise."

The CHAIRMAN suggested that this matter be left for consideration by the proposer and seconder of the resolution brought up by them at the last meeting of this Association.

This was agreed to.

SHOT-HOLE BORER.

The request made to all District Associations for information re shot hole borer was read.

The HON. SECRETARY informed the meeting that in reply to his circular sent to all estates in the district, with three exceptions only every estate was reported free from this pest.

After some discussion it was resolved to draw the attention of the district member on the Plants Pests Board to this matter and request him to visit and report on the three estates in question.

THE S. P. C. A.

Read letter from Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, S. P. C. A., as follows:—

S. P. C. A.
Colombo, 23rd October, 1912.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Maskeliya P. A.

Sir,
Your Association's name being in the list of subscribers to the S. P. C. A. I should be greatly obliged if you would kindly forward your subscription or a donation for the current year. Operations are being extended, and funds are urgently needed.

I am Sir,
Yours faithfully,
(Signed) LEWIS WALKER,
Hon. Secretary & Treasurer.

Resolved to give the usual annual subscription of Rs. 30.

RINDERPEST

Read letter from Government Agent giving cover to a letter sent him by the Acting Government Veterinary Surgeon as follows:—

ADDITIONAL STOCK INSPECTOR FOR THE CENTRAL PROVINCE.
Sir,
Hatton, 14th December, 1912.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary having forwarded to me an extract from your diary for last October suggesting the advisability of having an additional Stock Inspector in the Central Province, I have sent Mr. H. E. P. Jayawardena to be in charge of Hatton Division and Nuwara Eliya District. Mr. Ahamet is, however, to help him in the work whenever necessary in addition to attending to the rest of the Province.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) S. T. HOOLE,
Acting Government Veterinary Surgeon.

THE GOVERNMENT ENTOMOLOGIST.

Read letter from Mr. H. A. Webb as follows:—

Mousakellie,
Maskeliya, 19th December, 1912.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
M. P. A.

Dear Sir,
As it has come to my knowledge that the Ceylon Govern-

ment is only offering a salary of £400 for a year for an Entomologist to succeed Mr. Ernest Green, at Peradeniya, I think the Planters' Association should protest against such a small amount, it being most unlikely that a really good man can be got at that rate of pay. I think it very important for the planting industry that a thoroughly good scientific staff should be kept up.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) H. A. WEBB.

Mr. WEBB said, in his opinion the salary offered was quite inadequate for the important post of Government Entomologist. There was most important work to be done and the interests of the planting industry must be safeguarded from any possibility of a serious epidemic in the way of pests. A really good man was an absolute necessity, and in his opinion the services of such a man could not be obtained for the paltry salary at present offered.

This view was unanimously supported and the Hon. Secretary was instructed to write to the Parent Association and ask for their co-operation in the matter.

THE HATTON NURSING HOME.

The following letter from the Secretary, C. N. A. Hatton, was read:—

Ceylon Nursing Association,
Hatton, December 23rd, 1912.

Sir,

At a recent Executive Committee Meeting I was instructed to ask the C. N. A. representatives on the various P. A. Committees to kindly remind members of their Associations that subscriptions to the C. N. A. become due on January 1st, and must be paid before March 31st to ensure the benefits of subscribers' rates. Will you, therefore, do this at the next meeting of the Maskeliya P. A.?

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) M. W. THOMPSON,
Secretary.

THE CHAIRMAN remarked that he was not sure that the subscription to the Ceylon Nursing Association had not been increased for 1913, and suggested that the Hon. Secretary should write and ascertain what the subscription for the current year is. This was agreed to.

NEW J. P.

Read letter from Mr. H. A. Webb as follows:—

Mousakellie,
Maskeliya, 24th December, 1912.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
M. P. A.

Dear Sir,

One of the things to be brought up at the meeting on the 1st proximo is the name of some one to my place as J. P. at the end of the district.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) H. A. WEBB.

Resolved that the name of Mr. A. P. Jukes be submitted to Government for the post of J. P. U. P. M. for Lower Maskeliya.

EXCISE.

After some discussion, the meeting being in Committee, it was decided to defer this question to the next meeting.

RAGAMA CAMP.

Read letter from Mr. Wood, of Brownlow estate, as follows:—

Brownlow Estate,
Maskeliya, 19th September, 1912.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
M. P. A., Norwood.

Dear Sir,

I would beg to draw your attention to the undermentioned

complaint, and should be pleased to have your views as to what should be done under the circumstances. Kullama (Brownlow estate registered cooly No. 12) arrived at Ragama Camp with some coolies she had recruited at the Court. She states that she had no tin tickets either for herself or coolies; that a clerk (who appeared to be a Sinhalese) told her that if she gave him two rupees he would get tin tickets for her; that she gave this clerk the two rupees asked for; that the same clerk gave her a *tundu* for provisions to be got at the Camp caddie; that the clerk attends to coolies arriving from the Coast without tin tickets; that it was on the evening of Monday, the 2nd instant, that she paid him the money, and that she can identify the said clerk.

On the 3rd instant I received the following telegram from Ragama:—"Chettiappen's 7 coolies in Camp. Shall I forward on Government account," to which I replied by wire, "Please forward coolies." The coolies were despatched from the Camp on the night of the 7th instant.

I am, dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
(Signed) J. WOOD,
Superintendent.

THE CHAIRMAN remarked that at his request the Hon. Secretary had written Mr. Wood asking him to submit his complaint direct to the Superintendent of the Camp, marking the letter "private," and that probably some good would be effected thereby. No further reply had been received from Mr. Wood and in his (Mr. Wood's) absence that day nothing more could be done.

ROADS.

The following letter from the District Engineer was read.

NORWOOD-GLENTILT GAP ROAD.
September 7th, 1912.

To C. B. PRETTEJOHN, Esq.,
Hon. Secretary,
Maskeliya Planters' Association.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 5th instant, containing copy of the resolution passed by your Association on the 14th August last, in regard to dadap trees along the Norwood-Glentilt gap road I have the honour to suggest that you should refer this matter to the Superintendents of the estates on which the dadaps complained of are growing.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
P. M. BATTLE, D.E.

Mr. WRIGHT said that he strongly deprecated the view taken by the District Engineer, as it seemed to him that the work clearly devolved on the P. W. D. and not on estate superintendents or the Planters' Association. He moved that the Hon. Secretary do write to the District Engineer and express this opinion. This on being put to the meeting was carried unanimously.

The following resolution proposed by Mr. WRIGHT, and seconded by Mr. HENRY, was unanimously carried:—

That this Association protests against the heaping of mud and grass taken from the drains and roadsides on the side of the road, and would point out that the condition of the roads in the district is yearly becoming worse owing to the levelling of the sides having been given up, forcing the water down the centre.

WARLEIGH BRIDGE.

Submitted correspondence on the subject of Warleigh bridge as follows:—

Kelaniya Estate,
Maskeliya, October 30th, 1912.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Planters Association,
Maskeliya.

Dear Sir,

Will you please inform me who is responsible for the up-

keep and repair of the Warleigh Bridge. I was across this bridge yesterday and noticed at least two of the planks on the Gorthie side were missing altogether, and that another was so rotten that it was practically through. I have written to this Association on this subject before, but had no reply to my letter. I consider that this bridge is positively dangerous to those who use it for horses much, as I do. And for those who have no other means of getting about, especially to and from the Railway Station it would cause great inconvenience if this bridge ever got so out of repair as to make it impassable. I think that those who are responsible for the upkeep of this bridge ought to have their immediate attention called to this state it has allowed to get into, and immediate steps taken to have it put into a thorough state of repair.

Yours faithfully,
C. CREASY HOOD.

Maskeliya, November 12th, 1912.

C. CREASY HOOD, Esq.,
Kelaniya Estate.

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter dated the 30th ultimo on the above subject; after making enquiries I will write to you further.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) C. B. PRETTEJOHN,
Hon. Secretary, M. P. A.
December 23rd.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Maskeliya Planters' Association.

Dear Sir,

At a meeting of the Dickoya Planters' Association, held at Norwood on 19th instant, I read your letter, and Mr. Hood's letter, with regard to above bridge. I have the pleasure to inform you that the bridge is now in good order, having been repaired by Messrs. Walker & Greig, Ltd. I have not as yet received the final account, but will communicate again with you when I do so. I trust that your Association will repeat their generous action of some years ago, and help to defray the cost of the repairs.

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
H. F. LAYCOCK,
Chairman & Hon. Secretary.

Mr. HOOD remarked that the bridge was now in order, but the addition of some tar and sand would make it safer for horse traffic.

The HON. SECRETARY was instructed to communicate this minute to the Dikoya P. A.

Mr. UNWIN remarked on the very bad state of repair of the road approaching the Warleigh bridge from the Dikoya side, and said that, as he understood that this was a travellers' road and a grant towards upkeep was allowed, he considered that the road should be kept in good repair.

Mr. MACLURE said, if he remembered rightly, some years ago a vote of thanks was accorded to the party responsible for the upkeep of this road as it was always kept in such an excellent state of repair. (Laughter.)

The HON. SECRETARY was instructed to communicate with the Dikoya P. A. on this matter.

The following grants were applied for travellers' roads for the current year:—Stockholm-Cruden, Rs. 100; Upcot-Annandale, Rs. 25; Dikoya-Maskeliya, Rs. 50; Mousakellie-Braemar, Rs. 15; Nyanza-Claverton, Rs. 50; Kin-cora-Kew, Rs. 25; Upcot-Meriacotta, Rs. 50—Total Rs. 315.

POSTAL MATTERS—A STRING OF COMPLAINTS.

Mr. SHAND enquired what steps he should take in the following case: He did not keep a deposit account at the post office for telephoning telegrams as his estate was within the 3-mile radius for free delivery of telegrams. On December 31st a telegram was received at the post office for

him, which the postmaster, contrary to orders, delivered to him over the telephone. He was unable to understand it, sent off a special cooly at once requesting the postmaster to deliver him the telegram duly written out, which after some delay was done. Mr. Shand complained of the delay and inconvenience caused him through this important telegram not being delivered to him by peon in the first instance.

THE CHAIRMAN suggested this matter be brought to the attention of the P. M. G. as clearly the postmaster had no right to telephone the wire, Mr. Shand being within the 3-mile free delivery radius. Several members complained of delay in the delivery of registered letters, of not getting registered letter receipts, of delay in the despatch of letters from the post office, of letters not being entered in the tappal books, and of wrong entries in tappal books.

After some discussion the following resolution proposed by Mr. SHAND, and seconded by Mr. MASSY, was unanimously carried:—

That in the opinion of this Association the work has carried out at the Maskeliya P.O. at present is very irregular and the staff is quite inefficient.

The HON. SECRETARY read the following letter from the P. M. G.:—

General Post Office,
Colombo, September 10th, 1912.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Maskeliya P. A.,
Maskeliya.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 5th instant, I have the honour to inform you that Postmasters have already been authorised to enter the hours of arrival and despatch of tappal coolies in tappal books for those who require this information, and this should meet the case.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
W. C. MACREADY,
for Postmaster-General.

It was resolved that the Hon. Secretary do write and thank the P. M. G. for having acceded to their request.

MECHANICAL TRANSPORT.

THE CHAIRMAN, in introducing the question of mechanical transport, said that before asking for the views of the meeting, it might be as well to give them a brief outline of affairs as they then stood. Some weeks ago, in conversation with Mr. Juckes, the question of transport as it now exists cropped up, and the necessity for an improvement on bullock traction was discussed, and the outcome of this conversation was that Mr. Juckes agreed to get some figures to submit to this meeting in the matter of a ropeway. The idea was to connect Hatton and Maskeliya by a ropeway, and to save a matter of 12 miles of transport by bullock cart. The distribution of goods up and down the district from the end of the ropeway might then be made either by carts or by erecting another ropeway from Luccombe to Upcot. From statistics obtained it was found that the requirements of the district could be served by the ropeway suggested, but the initial cost would be high. Although this matter had been fully discussed at the Committee Meeting, where it was found that the scheme, though thoroughly sound and practicable, could be bettered by other means of transport, still a few rough figures might be of interest, if not for the present, for the future. • Tonnage

was taken as carefully as possible, and all estate requirements were included. The tonnage to and from the district approximated 11,500 tons per annum, and the present cost of transport was put at Rs. 8 per ton, which is the average rate ruling at the present time. The cultivated area of the district is roughly 18,000 acres, and transport was worked out on an average basis giving a present cost per acre of Rs. 5.11. The estimated cost of a ropeway as submitted by the Colombo Commercial Company was Rs. 120,000 and the cost of first year's working Rs. 44,000. Adding for unforeseen expenditure Rs. 16,000, they had a total of Rs. 180,000, or a cost, including capital, for the first year's working of Rs. 10 per acre or slightly less than double the present carting rate. Taking the annual cost of working the ropeway at Rs. 45,000 (this includes 15 per cent. depreciation on capital account), the cost of the second and successive years works out at Rs. 2.50 per acre and over 10 years at Rs. 3.25 per acre including capital cost. As it will be seen, this shows a considerable saving on the present rates of carting, so the

SCHEME IS QUITE PRACTICABLE

and thoroughly sound, but the raising of the capital—obtaining permission from proprietors over whose estates the cables would pass and the cost of the preliminary survey are all factors which would tend to delay, and delay is a thing that must be avoided on the question of transport—it is a most urgent one. For this reason your Committee decided to pass over this scheme in favour of motor lorries. As is well-known lorries have been tried in Uva and those lorries did a lot of damage to the roads there, but it was not suggested that such a heavy type of lorry should be put on these roads. There were plenty of types of lorries suitable for Ceylon and of not too great a weight which would do their work quite satisfactorily. It was not in their interest to break up roads, but to preserve them, as only six miles of the road to Maskeliya was a Government road. Government have laid down rules to govern the size and weight of motor lorries; they have fixed a load limit of three tons an axle on a lorry of not more than three ton weight. Such a lorry, or may be one of less weight, would not hurt their roads—and would enable them to get their transport satisfactorily done which he asserted was not the case at present. The cost of running a motor lorry worked out at roughly 75 cts. per ton mile as against 57 cts. per ton mile for bullock carts, and he ventured to say that no one would object to paying the extra 18 cents per ton mile were he assured of regular delivery of his produce and requisites—something must be done, the

TIME FOR TALK AND INACTION WAS PASSED

and they must tackle the question. Rinderpest, Anthrax, foot-and-mouth disease, or some cattle disease or other were prevalent in nearly every district of Ceylon, and the vital interests of every shareholder in the Island were at stake. If manure was held up at Hatton, crop would be very short and dividends correspondingly small, and this would affect shareholders very vitally. Government had not so far met them half way in their difficulty. But transport troubles were not so acute as they are now, and moreover they were not so acute now as they will be during the next three months, when large

quantities of manure are ordered up from Colombo by nearly every estate in the Island. It is up to every one to do his utmost to help wholeheartedly in this matter of mechanical transport, and he trusted that the movement would be echoed by every district, until motor lorries became the recognised means of transport to and from their railways.

Mr. G. JOHNSON briefly outlined a scheme of electrical transport, the cost of which would be approximately Rs. 200,000, but this as in the case of the proposed ropeway was passed over as entailing a very large outlay of capital and considerable delay to get into working order.

LIGHT RAILWAY.

Mr. J. P. CHAPMAN said that he quite agreed with the views expressed, in that the transport of the district demanded immediate consideration. All surrounding estates had more or less felt the result of the rinderpest, foot-and-mouth and other diseases which had lately been experienced at Hatton, during which time cart contractors had been very hard to put to it to keep estates supplied with their requisitions, and he thought the district should do their utmost to obtain light motor traction at once, and approach Government with a view to obtaining a narrow gauge Railway to Norwood with a branch line to Maskeliya, and a feeder to Bogawantalawa. He added that carting contractors were universally increasing their transport rates throughout the Island, and if the Maskeliya and Dikoya Associations guaranteed, say, some sum up to 75 cents per ton mile, there was no doubt in his mind but that the proposed railway would be a most paying proposition to propound to Government, and concluded by saying that any transport short of a railway should only be contemplated as a means to tide them over to such time as they should succeed in obtaining a railway.

JOINING FORCES WITH DIKOYA.

After a long discussion, the CHAIRMAN proposed that a sub-Committee consisting of Messrs. G. Johnson, R. MacLure, R. B. Harvey, A. P. Jukes, L. A. Wright, J. P. Chapman, the Chairman and Hon. Secretary be elected to meet the Dikoya P. A. with a view to concerted action in the matter of both a railway and motor traction.

The resolution on being put the meeting was carried unanimously.

THE CHAIRMAN said he would like to thank Mr. Aitken for attending their meeting that day and for the information and assistance he had given them in the matter of transport. He considered the thanks of the meeting were also due to Mr. Jukes for the trouble he had taken to collect statistics in the matter of the ropeway.

This the meeting heartily responded to.

Mr. A. P. JUCKES, while thanking the meeting, remarked that a vote of thanks be accorded to the two firms who had gone to considerable trouble in this matter, namely, the Eastern Produce & Estates Co., Ltd., and the Colombo Commercial Co., Ltd.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The following were elected to draw up the annual report in conjunction with Chairman and Hon. Secretary:—Messrs. A. P. Jukes, L. A. Wright and J. P. Chapman.

ACCOUNTS.

The accounts to the end of 1911 audited by Mr. R. B. Harvey were submitted and passed.

A vote of thanks to the Chair concluded the meeting at 6 p.m.

C. B. PRETTEJOHN,

HON. SECRETARY.

KELANI VALLEY PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

ROADS AND RAILWAY CROSSINGS DISCUSSED.

FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE CONTROL REQUIRED.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The annual general meeting of the Kelani Valley Planters' Association took place at Taldua Club House on Saturday morning. There were present:—Messrs. Thomas Hyatt (Chairman), C. F. Hutchinson, W. S. Jeffares, J. C. L. Brereton, C. S. Jones, A. M. Carmichael, Trafford Lewes, H. A. Clark, H. E. Candy, G. R. Massy, R. H. Villiers, L. H. Cantlay, D. I. Mackenzie, E. Marberly Byrde, Guy M. Neave, J. Dunlop, A. L. Baines, E. W. Ellis, E. C. Bosanquet, J. L. Cameron, E. R. Murphy, J. Marriott, H. J. Easman, J. E. G. Smith, E. W. Hornsby (visitor) and G. Loughnan (Hon. Secretary).

CANKER.

A letter from the Parent Association asked if they agreed to a resolution that Government should be requested to proclaim canker in rubber as a pest under the Plant Pests Ordinance.

THE CHAIRMAN said the proposal was not aimed so much at estates well conducted, but was to enable Government to get some means of enforcing that decent sanitary precautions should be taken by small owners, chiefly Sinhalese, who owned 10 or 15 acres of rubber. He thought the resolution was a good thing to be supported.

The suggestion was agreed to.

SHOT-HOLE BORER.

The shot-hole borer letter and resolution was read.

THE CHAIRMAN said he thought the majority of the estates in the Kelani Valley had a certain amount of shot-hole borer and his idea was that the Hon. Secretary should write and say it was pretty universal. That would meet the case. He did not think it was any use writing round to the estates about it.

The suggestion was agreed to.

CATTLE DISEASE.

On the subject of rinderpest.

THE CHAIRMAN said in a list sent them there were a number of villages with very long names which seemed to have rinderpest. Mr. Williamson had a resolution to bring up, but unfortunately he was not present. It was to the effect that Government be asked to increase their veterinary staff to enable them to easily combat any outbreak of disease. It seemed to him (the Chairman) that in addition to rinderpest a thing they had to fight down a good deal was foot-and-mouth disease. As far as he knew, apparently no precautions were taken by Government to grapple effectively with it. Cattle wandered about the road and gave the disease to other cattle. As had been told them in Committee that morning, one owner of 18 pairs of bulls lost about two from foot-and-mouth disease. That was far more important to the district than rinderpest. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. TRAFFORD LEWES thought the S. P. C. A. should go in conjunction with Government and let the latter run the Association and institute prosecutions. At the present moment the S. P. C. A. was short of funds and held no status at all.

THE CHAIRMAN thought the last speaker was quite right.

Mr. JEFFARES thought each headman of a village should be put in a position to keep a segregation camp. Immediately he saw that an animal was attacked it should be taken and kept there until it was cured or died. At the present moment the cattle were allowed to wander on the roads absolutely unattended and rotten with foot-and-mouth disease. He had seen them going about on their knees on the road, rotten with the disease.

Mr. ELLIS said a short time ago his only outlet from a certain estate was absolutely stopped owing to rinderpest and he had to do his carting by coolies and elephants. That went on for two months before the road was opened. He did not think there was so much rinderpest as foot-and-mouth disease.

THE CHAIRMAN thought Government were perfectly right in stopping the road. He instanced the case of the Veyangoda road being stopped twice last year and said he thought Government should stop the road for foot-and-mouth disease.

Mr. ELLIS replied that Mr. Jeffares had said that the headman should be put in authority to check any illness of any description in the transport of cattle. If that was so, half of their trouble would be stopped.

Mr. JEFFARES thought it was wrong to say transport cattle. It was the loading cattle on the road that carried so much disease.

THE CHAIRMAN:—Then you get back to the unfortunate position—as you know headmen are underpaid and it is a question of “how much.”

Mr. HUTCHINSON proposed that Government be asked to add to their staff of Inspectors and Veterinary Surgeons to better cope with disease in general.

Mr. DUNLOP seconded and suggested that every Association be circularised to support the resolution.

This was agreed to.

LIQUID FUEL DRUMS.

The Parent P. A. submitted a copy of correspondence re liquid fuel drums as under:—

Colombo, December 10th, 1912.
Ceylon Government Railway,
General Manager's Office.

THE SECRETARY,
Ceylon Planters' Association,
Kandy.

Sir

I have the honour to state that I recently drew the attention of Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co. to the apparently defective state of some of the drums used for the conveyance of liquid fuel which resulted in leakage of oil all over the carting area of some of our stations and caused liability of damage to other goods.

2. I enclose copy of Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co.'s reply, and shall be much obliged if you will call the attention of the District Planters' Association to this matter asking them to pay special attention to the emptying, cleansing and repairing of empty liquid fuel drums.

The damage to the goods yards was particularly noticeable in Kelani Valley Line.

3. I shall allow a reasonable time before issuing any instructions as to the refusal of dirty or defective drums.

I am, etc.,

(Signed) G. P. GREENE,
General Manager.

(Enclosure referred to.)

Colombo, December 5th, 1912.

THE GENERAL MANAGER,
Ceylon Government Railways,
Colombo.

Sir,

We have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 3,882 of 29/30 November, contents of which have been carefully perused.

The liquid fuel drums are the property of the estates and we cannot put them out of service unless they reach us in an unserviceable condition.

We think that a good deal of the dirtiness of which you complain would be avoided if planters were informed by you that drums handed in for return to Colombo would be refused, unless completely emptied of all liquid fuel and cleansed and scraped outside before leaving the estates, and we commend this step to your consideration.

We are, &c.,

(Signed) DELMEGE, FORSYTH & CO.

THE CHAIRMAN said he did not think they were to blame in the matter of drums. Any of them who had to deal with liquid fuel knew that the drums were knocked about by the railway company as if they were pieces of paper. He thought it might be arranged with the General Manager of the Ceylon Government Railway that if the railway would take a certain amount of care they would be very glad to meet him half-way and send the drums down to the station clean. It was a great deal the fault of the railway. He proposed that the Hon. Secretary write to the General Manager pointing out that a good deal of the damage was due to the carelessness of the railway servants in handling the drums. If they would see the drums were properly looked after, they (the planters) would see that the drums were sent down to the station clean.

The motion was carried.

DISTRICT COURT AT AVISAWELLA.

THE CHAIRMAN said he had received a letter from the G. A. at Ratnapura stating that the Government had declined to reconsider the decision not to have a District Court at Avisawella. The matter was brought up in Com-

mittee, continued the Chairman, and it was thought it would be a very good thing to write the Parent Association and ask them what was really a very great necessity, and what would cost little or nothing. They had not asked for a new court-house and the proposal would only mean the appointment of a clerk at a salary of Rs. 40 to Rs. 50 or so a month. The Secretary could draft a letter to be presented to the Parent Association and their representatives might speak about the matter.

Mr. VILLIERS:—With a view to having it brought up in Council.

The suggestion was agreed to.

HELP FOR THE S. P. C. A.

THE CHAIRMAN said he had received a letter from the Hon. Secretary of the Ceylon Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, in which he said: "May I ask your kind help in furthering the interests of the S. P. C. A. work in the Kelani Valley. Some years ago the P. A. started good effort and were provided with a sub-inspector under Mr. Trafford Lewes, but the spurt has died out a good deal of late. There is at present no officer working under Mr. Trafford Lewes, but it is proposed to appoint an inspector at Rs. 40 a month if the district will give reasonable support." The Chairman added that the Society was a worthy one and ought to be well supported in a big district like theirs.

Mr. VILLIERS thought it was absolutely useless to pay Rs. 5, while there were so few inspectors on the road.

THE CHAIRMAN:—It is to get inspectors that the subscriptions are required.

Mr. TRAFFORD LEWES said since Mr. Villiers was so energetic over the matter, probably he did not know the amount of correspondence and stamps that the honorary agent had to provide out of his own pocket, so he ought to take up the work.

THE CHAIRMAN was afraid the speaker was out of order. They were just trying to get a few subscriptions for a worthy cause.

Mr. VILLIERS thought Mr. Lewes by himself was not sufficient; they wanted others.

THE CHAIRMAN:—You cannot have inspectors without funds. He added they could send the subscriptions either to Mr. Lewes or the Society.

ROADS.

A lot of correspondence was read about roads. A letter from the Chairman of the District Road Committee, Colombo, stated that the Superintendent of Minor Roads would be asked to place the metal so as not to obstruct the thoroughfares.

A letter from the Colonial Secretary's Office stated that H. E. the Governor had been pleased to order that no further toll be levied for the use of the causeway at Arandara on the Pindeniya road, but the ferry toll be continued during flood months. The order for the removal of the toll from the causeway could not, however, be given effect to until the expiration of the present rent in June next.

A letter from the Colonial Secretary's Office with regard to the Pindeniya road stated that Government was advised that it would be a waste of money to put metal on the road at the present level, and that the road must be raised and rubble foundations laid, before metal could usefully be laid. It was intended similarly to improve the

rest of the road (at the Ritigahoya road) which is subject to heavy traffic, and that further votes would be taken in succeeding estimates for the purpose.

P. E. of W. P. wrote, with respect to Labugama road, that no funds were available for cutting back dangerous corners, but that parapets to culverts would be constructed as far as road maintenance funds would permit.

APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. Villiers was appointed a member of the District Road Committee, Kegalle, and C. S. Jones of the Colombo District Road Committee.

AN UNLOADING CRANE.

Mr. DUNLOP moved:—"That the Association recommend the erection of an efficient unloading crane at Dehiowita station," and said they had been doing unloading with elephants now and that cost Rs. 10 a day.

THE CHAIRMAN thought it would be an exceedingly good thing to have a crane there.

Mr. BAINES, seconding, said that none of the cranes on the railway were any good at all. (Laughter.) He had just recently had to bring a four-ton machine up, and it cost him Rs. 180 to get a crane from Yatiyantota to put the work through. The motion was carried.

A DANGEROUS LEVEL CROSSING.

The General Manager of the Ceylon Government Railway wrote that he could not see his way to have watchmen at all the level crossings between Colombo and Ratnapura.

Mr. TRAFFORD LEWES said the crossing between the 26th and 27th mileposts from Colombo—just before Puwak-pitiya—was absolutely dangerous. They could not see a train approaching within 50 yards coming from Avisawella. He moved that the following resolution go to the General Manager: "That the corner of the railway level crossing between the 26th and 27th mileposts, on the road between Colombo and Avisawella, be cut back, as the crossing is very dangerous approaching from Colombo." The train could not be seen until one was within 20 yards of the line.

Mr. HUTCHINSON seconded.

Mr. BAINES proposed that notices should be put up to tell engine drivers to whistle at the corner.

THE CHAIRMAN said they had to whistle when coming to a level crossing and a station.

Mr. TRAFFORD LEWES said at the corner he spoke of they could not hear the whistle on account of the bank.

Mr. BAINES suggested there should be automatic signals, and only hoped that a high Government Official would meet a train one day while going rather fast. The shock to his system might make him think seriously of the matter.

Mr. VILLIERS said he understood, privately, that automatic signalling had been refused. He proposed "That the Colonial Secretary be written to direct to call his attention to the dangers attendant on level crossings in the Kelani Valley generally and to request his support to an application to the General Manager of the Ceylon Government Railway that automatic signals be erected at each level crossing."

Mr. CANTLAY—seconded and the motion was carried.

THE TELEPHONE COMMITTEE.

The Hon. SECRETARY read a letter from Mr. J. C. Mitchell, of Panawatte, wishing to be allowed to resign the Secretaryship of the Telephone Committee. He had not been able to take up the matter as he wished.

THE CHAIRMAN said it was a little disappointing. At their last meeting they elected a sub-Committee and a meeting was called, but only the Hon. Secretary attended. Another meeting was called and Mr. Mitchell kindly said he would take up the duties of Secretary. He now wrote to say he could not take up the duties and it would rest with them, when electing members for the new year, to appoint some one in his place.

THE ACCOUNTS.

The accounts showing a balance of Rs. 158-92 were passed.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The Hon. SECRETARY read the annual report, which was as under:—

ANNUAL REPORT, 1912.

Your Committee have much pleasure in submitting the 28th annual report of Kelani Valley Planters' Association.

MEETINGS.—During the year four Committee and four general meetings have been held and were well attended.

SCHEDULE.—The number of estates on the register is 109. There is also one private vote, making 110 as against a total of 112 in 1911.

FINANCE.—The balance in bank at the credit of the Association is Rs. 158-92 as against the balance last year of Rs. 348-11.

REMARKS.

LABOUR.—In the opinion of your Committee the labour difficulties experienced in this district are somewhat less pressing than in previous years, owing no doubt to the fact that large acreages of tea are gradually going out of bearing, under rubber, and also to the fact that the continuation of the good work done by the members of this Association in recruiting labour from Coast is now bearing fruit." It is, however, the opinion of your Committee that advances have gone up a great deal during the year, and they cannot help but think this is due in a great measure to the effects of the Proprietors' Labour Federation, the good work of which is nullified by such few estates having joined same." As regards coast recruiting your Committee are of opinion that the limiting of A Forms to Rs. 15 per head for coolies recruited has aimed a blow at the iniquitous practice of obtaining labour through unscrupulous recruiters. An excellent move has been made by estates in granting free passage to labourers coming in from Coast, on the condition that they remain on the estate for which they were recruited for a period of two years. In many cases a cash bonus has also been offered to kanganyes who recruit *bona fide* Coast coolies. Your Committee is of opinion that without appealing to legislation these free passages and bonuses will become the rule rather than the exception as competition for Coast Labour on sound lines increases. There is one matter which your Committee consider very necessary, and that is a more general recognition of the importance of keeping sub-kanganyes' accounts and it is hoped that the keeping of accounts will become general.

RAILWAYS.—The year under review has shown us another step forward in the progressive policy of this Colony, in the opening up of communication in important planting districts; your Committee refer to the opening of the Ratnapura Railway. This railway was opened by His Excellency the Governor on May the 18th last, and your Committee feels sure that this Association joins with that

of Ratnapura in thanking Government for having given us a much-needed communication between the cultivated areas served by this railway and the market for their produce, Colombo. The minutes of the Railway Commission held last year have been published, and show a thorough appreciation of the position of the Kelani Valley Railway and the urgent necessity for further adding to its rolling stock. Your Committee hope that the recommendations made by the Commission will not be laid on one side, but Government will see to the ordering and placing on the railway as soon as possible the goods wagons, etc., which are so urgently needed to avoid further congestion. The congestion at the beginning of the year was somewhat severe, and it is to be anticipated that without a large increase in the amount of rolling stock on the Kelani Valley and Ratnapura lines in the near future, that this railway will be totally inadequate to supply the need of the district through which it passes.

LIQUID FUEL.—Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co. wrote to us in April last, stating that they had decided to erect liquid fuel storage tanks at Avisawella and Yatiyantota. They pointed out, however, that some delay would occur before these tanks could be erected as the materials are required would have to be ordered from England. Whilst regretting that up to the present these tanks have not been erected, we cannot but hope that they will shortly be taken in hand and placed at the disposal of consumers.

HOSPITALS.—From the reports of hospital visitors it would seem that whilst the working of Karawanella hospital is being carried on with its usual efficiency as one of the finest outstation hospital in the Colony, the Avisawella hospital, which serves almost as large a district as that of Karawanella is very far indeed behind the latter in point of sanitation. It is hoped that the Avisawella hospital will be taken in hand; and that an efficient water supply will be arranged. The sites for the building of the Kendengamuwa and Kitulgala hospitals, as also for that at Undugoda, have been selected, and the building of these hospitals has been or is about to be commenced.

ROADS.—The roads in this district, although in the main in better order than in former years, have still cause for increased attention on the part of those responsible for them, as the main road through the district, being as it is the high road between Colombo and Up-country, leaves much to be desired, more particularly between Puwakpitiya and Avisawella. Your Committee regret to report that the Pindenioya road still remains in an impassable condition. In spite of the repeated requests for the repair of this important road, leading as it does to Kegalle which serves by far the greater part of the Kelani Valley as a District Court, little if anything has been done towards putting this road into suitable order for vehicular traffic. A sum of Rs. 10,000 was included in the Supplementary Estimate for 1912-13 for the repairing of some 3 miles of this at the road Ritigahaoya end. It has since been ascertained, however, that Government propose to use this Rs. 10,000 for raising above flood level and putting in order about five-eighths of a mile of this road—"a profit of the condition of road has been allowed to get in," and your Committee can do nothing but express their feelings emphatically as to the necessity for further improvement of the condition of the remainder of this road.

TELEPHONES.—In September a circular was sent to every member of this Association showing the approximate cost of District Telephone communication and asking

if superintendents of estates were willing to join in the scheme. The matter has now been placed in the hands of strong Telephone sub-Committee.

BENEVOLENT FUND.—This Fund, providing as it does so much relief annually to many planters and their families who have fallen on hard times, should be supported by every member of this Association, and your Committee would urge upon all the desirability of subscribing personally and on behalf of their estates a small sum annually.

GENERAL.—The tea crop over the whole district shows a very large decrease from that obtained in former years, which is largely caused by the shade from the rubber trees with which the tree has been interplanted over nearly three-quarter of the acreage of this district. The prices realised for black teas during the season have been good, but the prices for green teas have shown a very marked falling off from the beginning of the year, principally on account of the large quantities of green tea which are now being manufactured in South India and to the over-production which took place during the early part of this year caused by the very good prices realised for this commodity.

RUBBER.—The rubber crops this year show a considerable increase on those of 1911, but in many cases estimates have not been obtained owing to the phenomenally heavy rainfall during the greater part of the year, which has interfered with the collection of latex. The prices realised have been good, though somewhat lower than last year.

DISEASES.—The generous cultivation which has been given to tea year by year has rendered the invasion of both shot-hole borer and helopeltis a far less serious matter than formerly, as the vigour of the tea has enabled it to combat the ravages of these insect pests. In rubber canker has been the worst evil against which we have had to fight, but the disease has only made its appearance to any considerable extent in areas where the rubber has been very closely planted. On the whole, this district may be said to be remarkably free from further diseases, and with careful attention your Committee consider that the Kelani Valley will prove to be one of the healthiest areas over which the rubber tree flourishes. The thanks of this Association are due to the hospital visitors, members of the Road Committees and the auditor for their services, also to the daily papers, including the "Ceylon Observer," for the full reports given of our meetings.

OBITUARY.—Your Committee regret to recall the death during the year of Mr. D. Allan Pitt, of Udapola, also of Mr. Alexander Wardrop, Secretary of the Parent Association.

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

To 110 subscriptions at 12-50 to Planters' Association	1,375 00	By balance	384 11
To 5 subscriptions to All-Ceylon Exhibition	100 00	By 100 subscriptions at 17-50	1,925 00
To 1 subscription to Planters' Benevolent Fund	15 00	By 5 subscriptions to All-Ceylon Exhibition	100 00
To subscriptions paid Times, "Observer" and "Independent"	77 50	By 1 subscription from Hanwella Planters' Benevolent Fund	15 00
To Stationery and Printing	86 11		
To Clerk's pay (10 months)	150 00		
To Postages, batta, Telegrams	86 08		
To Presentation to			

Mr. Meedeniya ...	150 00
To subscription paid to Kegalle Pavilion ...	150 00
To Cheque book ...	5 00
To Advertising Meetings ...	34 50
To balance ...	158 92

Rs. 2,388 11

BALANCE SHEET.

To Bank of Madras...	158 92
By K. V. P. A. ...	158 92

The CHAIRMAN said he had much to say upon the report as it was a full one. One or two points there were, however, on which he would like to touch. One was tapping—the various costs per ounce or per pound that were being paid in their own district. The figures were going up and it only enabled the men to drink a good deal more than they did now. Ultimately that would mean the ruination of their labour force. It was absurd to have one man paying one cent per ounce for collected latex and another paying two or three cents. They should all pay the same rates, and no doubt some one could evolve a scheme to bring that about. Then there were a large number of Sinhalese being imported into the Valley from places like Galle and Matara. In many cases they were forced to leave their own village for the villagers' good. They never did a day's work. This was very obnoxious and was making their resident Sinhalese ask for advances, a thing they have never done before. He thought it would be a great pity if this system was continued. He asked them to consider it during the coming year and put a stop to what had been a crying evil in the district for some time. He thanked them for the support they had given the chair during the year, and also thanked the Hon. Secretary for what he had done. (Applause.)

THE CHAIRMAN RE-ELECTED.

Mr. MACKENZIE took the chair *pro tem*, and said they could not have a better Chairman than Mr. Hyatt and he proposed his re-election.

The motion was carried unanimously and Mr. Hyatt briefly thanked them.

The Hon. Secretary was accorded a hearty vote of thanks and the Chairman mentioned that he was going home soon, and they hoped to see him back again in renewed health and spirits.

It was proposed to ask Mr. R. I. Mackenzie to be the Hon. Secretary; failing him Mr. Villiers said he would take on the duties.

COMMITTEE.

The Committee were elected as under:—

Avisawella: Messrs. Jones, Jeffares, Brereton and P. G. Wood; Yatiyantota: Messrs. R. I. Mackenzie, A. Cochran, Payne and Mitchell; Ruaniwella: Messrs. Duncan, Williamson, and Villiers; Dehiowita: Messrs. C. Armstrong, D. I. Mackenzie and L. H. Cantlay; and Kitulgala: Mr. Carmichael.

Hospital Visitors were appointed as follows: Messrs. F. H. Lushington, D. B. Williamson, Brereton and P. Byrde.

District Road Committees, Kegalle: Mr. Villiers; Colombo: Mr. C. S. Jones; Waga: Mr. J. D. Elford.

Secretary to the Telephone Sub-Committee: Mr. L. H. Cantlay.

Members of the Kandy Committee: The Chairman, the Hon. Secretary, Messrs. Duncan, Carmichael, P. G. Wood, Villiers and Williamson.

PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE.

STERILIZATION OF MANURE.

NOTE BY MR. KELWAY BAMBER.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at the Victoria Commemoration Buildings, Kandy, on Friday, the 10th January, 1913, at 2-30 p.m.

Present:—Mr. G. C. Bliss (Chairman, P.A. of Ceylon), the Hon. Mr. E. Rosling (Kandy), Messrs. F. H. Layard (Kandy), H. F. Laycock (Chairman, Dikoya P.A.), A. H. Roe (Dimbula P.A.), Alex. Fairlie (Colombo), H.M. Picken (Pussellawa P.A.), Geo. Benzie (Chairman, Pussellawa P.A.), J. W. Bennett (Kotmalie P.A.), G. W. Hunter Blair (K.K. and Panwila P.A.), A. M. Carmichael (Kelani Valley P.A.), R. W. Carmichael (Kandy Districts P.A.), J. B. Coles (Kandy), W. B. Biddulph (Kandy), G. H. Gollidge (Kandy), A. Thorp (Matale P.A.), J. G. Napier (Chairman (K.K. and Panwila P.A.), H. D. Garrick (Chairman Matale P.A.), A. A. Franklin (Kegalle P.A.), P. R. Shand (Kandy), M. L. Wilkins (Chairman, Ambegamuwa P.A.), F. H. Griffith (Kalutara P.A.), H. Inglis (Chairman, Kalutara P.A.), H. Storey (Kandy), Wm. Moir (Colombo), Wm. Sinclair (Rangala P.A.), G. J. Murray (Kandy Districts P.A.), F. W. Le Feuvre (Dimbula P.A.), Keith Rollo (Kandy), Maxwell Johnstone (Pussellawa P.A.), S. P. Blackmore (Ambegamuwa P.A.), G. L. H. Doudney (Hon. Secretary, K. K. and Panwila P.A.), and John Still (Secretary, P.A. of Ceylon). 33 members.

The notice calling the meeting was read.

The minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at Kandy, on Friday, the 8th November, 1912, were submitted for confirmation.

It was resolved:—"That they be and they hereby are confirmed."

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

Submitted letters and telegrams regretting inability to be present at meeting from Messrs. C. W. Beattie, R. G. Coombe, R. Huyshe Eliot, A. C. Wilson, A. Lee Simpson, James Westland, G. H. Masefield, C. O. Macadam, C. B. Clay, E. Hamlin, W. Hay Morrison, A. A. Bowie, A. T. Sydney Smith, W. N. Tisdall, Wm. Gibson, N. J. Wilson Blackett, and J. S. Patterson. Letters from Sir Stanley Bois and Mr. Harold North signifying their resignation from the Committee were submitted.

The name of Mr. Wm. Moir, Chairman, Chamber of Commerce, was added to the Committee.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The following resolution from the Passara District Planters' Association was read, and it was stated by the Chairman that the question had already received and was still receiving the attention of the Medical Wants Committee:—

The Government be respectfully requested to see the medical officers, where necessary for the efficient carrying out of their duties, do keep horses.

STERILIZING MANURE.

Submitted correspondence between the Secretary, P.A. and the Director of Agriculture re the Sterilization of Manure.

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy, 12th November, 1912.

THE DIRECTOR,
Royal Botanic Gardens,
Peradeniya.

Sir,

I have to enquire whether your attention has been directed to the question of the advisability of sterilizing manures or the ingredients of manures upon their importation into Ceylon.

It has been asserted by several planters that new weeds and possibly insect and other pests are traceable to this source. It is of course a point for a scientific opinion and not one upon which this Association is in a position to form a complete judgment. For instance there might be some danger of certain manures being deprived by sterilization of their fertilizing properties.

I shall be much obliged for any information on this subject which you are able to afford.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon.

Department of Agriculture,
Peradeniya, Ceylon, 18th/19th November, 1912.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 12th instant, I have the honour to attach copy of note by the Government Chemist on the subject of sterilizing manures.

2 It appears to me the danger of fire from this process and the cost involved would make the sterilizing of manure by inflammable solvents an impracticable measure here.

3 We are making investigations to determine what cakes are the chief source of mischief and the kinds of seed introduced. If any particular cake were found to contain a large quantity of seed with vitality unimpaired it might prove advisable to give up purchasing such cake substituting for it some other from a clean locality if such is to be found.

I will endeavour to ascertain through the various Departments of Agriculture in India whether cake can be obtained from clean districts.

4. I will send you a further communication on the matter.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) R. N. LYNE,
Director of Agriculture.

(Copy of Note referred to.)

The question of sterilizing manure has been considered, and I consulted some of the manure merchants on the matter some two years ago.

The various cakes are the chief source by which new seeds were introduced to Ceylon estates, and I suggested treating the cakes with solvents to extract the balance of oil and at the same time kill all the seed. Rape cake is now treated in this way in India, and its value is greatly increased as it insures, it being in a fine state of division and with less oil, it naturally obtained more nitrogen.

The cost would be rather high, and it would be difficult to treat the large amount of cakes imported annually which amount to some thousands of tons.

The chief difficulty lies in the volatility and inflammability of the solvents necessary for the oil extraction, the greater portion of which can be recovered by distillation, but even with the best condensers a considerable loss occurs, which enhances the cost.

The price of manure is already very high owing to the large demand not only in Ceylon, India, but also the Japan and the United States, and now that the F.M.S. is commencing the demand possibly the price will be further enhanced.

(Signed) M. K. BAMBER,
Government Chemist.

GOVERNMENT ENTOMOLOGIST.

Submitted the following resolution from the Maskeliya P.A. and resolved that the question be left in the hands of the Committee of Agriculture Experiments:—

That a copy of Mr. H. A. Webb's letter should be sent to the Parent Association and their co-operation asked for.

(Copy of Letter referred to.)

Mousakelle, Maskeliya.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Maskeliya Planters' Association,
Maskeliya.

Dear Sir,

As it has come to my knowledge that the Ceylon Government is only offering a salary of £400 a year for an Entomologist to succeed Mr. Ernest Green at Peradeniya, I think the Planters' Association should protest against such a small amount, it being most unlikely that a really good man could be got at the rate of pay.

I think it very important for the planting industry that a thoroughly good scientific staff should be kept up.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) H. A. WEBB.

SHELLS OF COCOA FRUITS.

Read the following letter from the Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, and enclosure from Prof. Sommerfeld:—

The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce,
Colombo, 8th January, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

Dear Sir,

I am enclosing a letter addressed to me by Prof. E. Sommerfeld of Bombay, and shall be glad if you can assist him in the manner indicated.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) F. M. SIMPSON,
Secretary.

(Copy of Letter from Prof. Sommerfeld.)

Dadar near Bombay, January 2nd, 1913,
Portuguese Church Road.

TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Colombo.

Dear Sir,

I wish to buy shells of cocoa fruits in large quantities and shall be glad if you will kindly give me the address of some cocoa estates willing to sell the residues. At first I need a sample of these shells for the preliminary trial.

I shall be much obliged if you will be kind enough to inform the one or other of the Ceylon cocoa estates of the contents of my letter.

With best thanks in anticipation.

I have the honor to be, dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
(Signed) E. SOMMERFELD.

THE CLERICAL STAFF.

Resolved:—"That the Clerical Staff and peons of Planters' Association be allowed a bonus of one month's salary in recognition of the good work done by them in 1912."

It was resolved that the salary of typist be raised to to Rs. 60 per mensem.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1912.

Resolved:—"That this Committee approves the foundation of a periodical to be issued from the office of Planters' Association of Ceylon to be known as the *Planting Gazette* and recognised as the official organ of the Planters' Association."

PLANTING GAZETTE.

Resolved:—"That this Committee approves the foundation of a periodical to be issued from the office of the Planters' Association of Ceylon to be known as the *Planting Gazette* and recognised as the official organ of the Planters' Association."

MR. FURLONG.

A report was received from a small sub-Committee appointed to consider the application of Mr. Furlong that the Association should take action to re-open an inquiry in which he was interested, and it was resolved :—"That no further action be taken."

DEPARTURE OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

A letter from His Excellency the Governor was submitted by the Chairman, and it was resolved :—"That the Hon. Mr. E. Rosling, the Chairman and the Secretary, do form a sub-Committee to draft an address of farewell to His Excellency."

RUBBER CROP ESTIMATES, 1913.

It was stated that District Planters' Associations had been circularized with regard to making this up and members were asked to expedite the sending in of returns.

TRANSPORT.

A somewhat long discussion of this important subject took place, but eventually the matter was postponed until the annual general meeting when a resolution on the subject will be brought forward.

RUBBER THEFTS.

Read letter received from the Secretary, Chamber of Commerce :—

The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce,
Colombo, 20th December, 1912.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

THEFTS AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING IN RUBBER.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 17th instant, and with reference to previous correspondence that has passed on the above subject, I am requested by my Committee who have gone very fully into this question to write to you as follows :—

It has been ascertained from the Police Authorities that all application for licenses to deal in rubber now received from native dealers are without exception refused, and that whenever a reasonable complaint is made against the holder of an existing license, such license is immediately withdrawn. By this means it is confidently anticipated that licenses to deal in rubber will shortly be limited to such a minimum as can be efficiently supervised and controlled by the police, and my Committee are strongly in favour of their being allowed to proceed with their present policy as the best preventive measure that can in the meantime be adopted for checking thefts and illicit dealing.

The following amending clause to the existing Rubber Ordinance has also been submitted to the Attorney-General for approval, which, if made law, should, it is considered, materially assist the prosecuting Magistrate in being able to convict persons charged with being in possession of rubber reasonably suspected of being stolen.

Yours faithfully,
F. M. SIMPSON,
Secretary.

(Clause referred to.)

Whoever is in possession, charge of or deals with rubber, or wet rubber, reasonably suspected to be stolen shall, if he does not give an account to the satisfaction of the Police Magistrate as to how he came to possess or deal with such rubber or wet rubber, be guilty of an offence under this Ordinance.

CARDAMOM THEFTS.

Letters giving details of a large number of thefts of cardamoms were laid on the table, and it was resolved :—

"That the Secretary do write to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary stating that this Committee is satisfied that thefts of cardamoms are very prevalent and asking respectfully that an Ordinance may be drafted on the lines of the Ordinances dealing with thefts of cocoa and rubber."

SHOT-HOLE BORER.

In pursuance of the resolution passed at the last meeting resolved that the Secretary do now write to the Chairman of the various Plant Pest Boards and do furnish them with the information on this subject which has been collected; at the same time requesting them to take effective steps to prevent the dissemination of this disease.

RUBBER CANKER.

Resolved :—"That the Secretary do write requesting Government to proclaim this disease under the provisions of the Plant Pests Ordinance."

ALEXANDER WARDROP.

Correspondence on this subject was laid on the table showing that progress has been made, and that the final selection of a clock for the Tower of the Victoria Commemoration Buildings had been delegated to Mr. Thomas North Christie.

COCOA CULTIVATION.

Submitted the following letter from the Hon. the Government Agent, C. P. :—

Kandy Kachcheri, 10th/11th December, 1912.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that under section 14 (b) of the Excise Ordinance No. 8 of 1912 no coca plant shall be cultivated or collected except under the authority and subject to the terms and conditions of a license granted in that behalf by the Government Agent.

2. This Ordinance has been proclaimed and will come into operation on the 1st of January, 1913.

3. I request therefore that you will bring the requirements of the Ordinance in respect of the coca to the notice of the planters cultivating this shrub in the Province.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
(Signed) G. S. SEXTON,
Government Agent, C.P.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 7th December, 1912.

MULHAIKELLE HOSPITAL.

Sir,

Your letter of the 25th November, 1912, to the Chairman of the Medical Wants Committee, on the above subject, having been referred to Government, I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to refer you to my letter to your address dated 23rd September last, and am to state that the matter having already been decided by His Excellency after full and careful consideration, no good purpose would be served by bringing the question before the Medical Wants Committee.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
(Signed) ———,
for Colonial Secretary.

RAGAMA CAMP.

Letters from Mr. E. Turner, Mr. R. Huyshe Eliot and Mr. James Westland were submitted, and it was resolved :—"That the Secretary do correspond with the Hon. the Government Agent, W. P., on the question of the supply of cloth to coolies in the Camp."

TELEPHONES.

Read a letter from the Colonial Secretary, and resolved:—"That the Secretary do write and request the Hon. the Rural Member to put a question in Council on this matter."

DR. BAHR.

Resolved:—"That Dr. Bahr's offer to lecture in the Planters' Association Hall on the day of the annual general meeting be cordially accepted."

A vote of thanks to the chair terminated the proceedings.

JOHN STILL,
Secretary, P.A., Ceylon.

PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE.

ARTIFICIAL MANURES AND WEEDS.

INTERESTING EXPERIMENTS.

The Transport Deputation to the Governor.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at the Victoria Commemoration Buildings, Kandy, on Friday, the 14th February, 1913, at 8-30 a.m.

Present:—Mr. G. C. Bliss (Chairman, P. A. of Ceylon), Hon. Mr. Edward Rosling (Kandy), Messrs. A. J. Austin Dickson (Kotmale P. A.), L. A. Wright (Maskeliya P. A.), R. Hayshe Eliot (Dikoya P. A.), H. G. Eccles (Dikoya P. A.), H. F. Laycock (Chairman, Dikoya P. A.), C. A. Grant (Hewaheta P. A.), Thos. Smith (Dolosbagie and Yakdessa P. A.), Alex. Fairlie (Colombo), Fred S. Elson (Kotmale P. A.), T. Y. Wright (Knuckles, Kellebokka and Panwila P. A.), J. G. Napier (K. K. and Panwila P. A.), R. G. Coombe (Haputale P. A.), J. W. Hyde (Haputale P. A.), W. Coombe (Kandy), William Gibson (Haputale P. A.), Tom Hyatt (Chairman, Kelani Valley P. A.), Hodgson Bell (Matale P. A.), W. H. Biddulph (Kandy), G. H. Gollidge (Kalutara P. A.), H. Inglis (Chairman, Kalutara P. A.), A. J. Dawson (Kalutara P. A.), F. H. Griffith (Hon. Secretary, Kalutara P. A.), J. W. Oldfield (Kalutara P. A.), Neill G. Campbell (Nuwara Elya Districts P. A.), E. Gathorne Wood (Hewaheta P. A.), Jackson Smale (Chairman, Kegalle P. A.), C. O. Macadam (Kalutara P. A.), J. F. Elford (visitor), Keith Rollo (Kandy), A. A. Bowie (Dimbula P. A.), H. O. Hoseason (Kandy), P. R. Shand (Kandy), J. R. Thistle (Hon. Secretary, Kegalle P. A.), H. M. Reeves (Dolosbagie and Yakdessa P. A.), C. B. Prettejohn (Hon. Secretary, Maskeliya P. A.), G. H. Masefield (Kandy), A. C. Wilson (Uda Pussellawa P. A.), J. R. Barkley (Kalutara P. A.), R. Garnier (Kalutara P. A.), W. Spearman (visitor), H. M. Picken (Pussellawa P. A.), Maxwell Johnstone (Pussellawa P. A.), R. H. Villiers (Kelani Valley P. A.), Albert D. Sly (Sabaragamuwa P. A.), H. F. Russell (Rangalla P. A.), J. Hall-Brown (Rangalla P. A.), A. Hamilton Harding (Dimbula P. A.), M. L. Wilkins (Chairman, Ambegamuwa P. A.), J. Lochora (Colombo), G. O. Trevaldwyn (Hon. Secretary, Haputala P. A.), Hew Kennedy (Chairman, Maskeliya P. A.), F. H. Layard (Kandy), Gordon Pyper (Kandy), A. M. Carmichael (Kelani Valley), E. G. Box (Dolosbagie and Yakdessa P. A.), P. J. M. Box (K. K. and Panwila P. A.), J. L. Tancock (Kandy), A. J. Stephens (Chairman, Dolosbagie and Yakdessa P. A.), H. E. Walker (Dimbula P. A.), P. P. C.

Walker (Hon. Secretary, Pussellawa P. A.), F. W. LeFevre (Dimbula P. A.), and John Still (Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon).—60 members and two visitors.

The notice calling the meeting was read.

The minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, held at Kandy, on Friday, the 10th January, 1913, were submitted for confirmation. Resolved:—"That they be and they hereby are confirmed."

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

Submitted letters and telegrams regretting inability to be present at meeting from Messrs. James Westland, J. S. Patterson, P. G. Wood, J. R. Neale, D. G. Norman, and Huntley Wilkinson.

P. A. KANDY COMMITTEE.

Resolved:—"That the following names be submitted at the general meeting held at 2-30 p.m. on this day for election to the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, 'Thirty Committee' and the Coast Agency Committee.

P. A. GENERAL COMMITTEE FOR 1913.

The Chairman and Hon. Secretaries of affiliated District Planters' Associations with elected representatives:—Hon. Mr. E. Rosling, Messrs. W. N. Tisdall, G. H. Masefield, H. Storey, James Westland, E. G. Beilby, H. O. Hoseason, G. C. Bliss, J. B. Coles, J. S. Patterson, P. R. Shand, Keith Rollo, R. F. S. Hardie, J. L. Tancock, N. W. Davies, W. L. Strachan, W. S. Coombe, G. H. Gollidge, J. R. Neale, Gordon Pyper (snr.), L. Bayly, Martin M. Smith, T. Gidden, and Wallace R. Westland.

"THIRTY COMMITTEE" MEMBERS FOR 1913.

Hon. Mr. E. Rosling, Messrs. N. W. Davies, W. H. Biddulph, R. H. Eliot, C. C. Durrant, W. Coombe, H. Storey, Wm. Gibson, G. C. Bliss, F. H. Layard, H. O. Hoseason, Gordon Pyper, J. B. Coles, Edgar Turner, James Westland, L. St. G. Carey, R. G. Coombe, H. Inglis, J. S. Patterson, J. Graeme Sinclair, H. F. Laycock, Geo. Benzje, Martin M. Smith, and H. G. Eccles.

COAST AGENCY COMMITTEE FOR 1913.

Chairman of all District Associations:—Hon. Mr. E. Rosling, Messrs. James Westland, G. C. Bliss, Gordon Pyper, Edgar Turner, J. S. Patterson, T. Gidden, H. O. Hoseason, R. G. Coombe, R. H. Eliot, Hodgson Bell, J. B. Coles, W. N. Tisdall, Wm. Gibson, J. L. Tancock, Joseph Fraser, W. S. Coombe, G. H. Gollidge, Martin M. Smith, and Wallace R. Westland.

PRESENTATION OF ADDRESS TO H. E. THE GOVERNOR.

The CHAIRMAN informed the members that an illuminated address of farewell had been presented to H. E. the Governor and a photograph of same was passed round the table.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Read a letter from the Hon. Secretary of the Kelani Valley District Planters' Association, urging the necessity of providing a District Court at Avisawella. Resolved:—"That this question be left over until the next meeting."

Read a letter from the Hon. Secretary, Balangoda District P. A. notifying absorption of that body in the Sabaragamuwa P. A.

PRESENT SYSTEM OF WEIGHING RUBBER IN LONDON.

Read following letter from Mr. G. H. Gollidge:—

Neboda, 5th February, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

Sir,
Will you please add "Present System of Weighing Rubber in London" to Committee Agenda for 14th.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) G. H. GOLLEDGE,
Gikiyanakande,

Mr. GOLLEDGE and other members spoke on this subject, and it was resolved:—"That Mr. G. H. Golledge do draft a letter to be written to the Ceylon Association in London requesting them to put the facts before the Rubber Growers' Association."

ESTATE TRANSPORT.

Read the following letter from the Chamber of Commerce:—

The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce,
Colombo, 25th January, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

Dear Sir,

At the request of my Committee I beg to enclose for your information copy of a letter addressed by this Chamber to Government on the subject of the transport of goods and produce to and from estates and the Government Railway.

It is understood this question is to form the subject of a resolution to be brought before the annual general meeting of your Association, and my Committee feel confident that the suggestion that Government should receive a joint deputation from your Association and the Chamber to discuss the matter will meet with approval.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) F. M. SIMPSON,
Secretary.

Resolved:—"That the Planters' Association do co-operate with the Chamber of Commerce in sending a joint deputation to wait upon his Excellency the Officer Administering the Government."

The following members of the Planters' Association were nominated to serve on this deputation, viz.:—Messrs. M. L. Wilkins, G. H. Golledge, G. H. Masefield, T. Y. Wright, R. G. Coombe, Wm. Sinclair, the Hon. the Rural Member of Council, and the Chairman, Planters' Association.

INTERNATIONAL RUBBER AND ALLIED TRADES EXHIBITION, 1914.

Read a letter from the Organizing Manager of the International Rubber and Allied Trades Exhibition inviting the Planters' Association to present a trophy for competition.

Resolved:—"That this request be referred to the 'Thirty Committee.'"

KANDY CEMETERY.

Read the following letter from Mr. P. R. Shand:—

Coolbawn, Nawalapitiya,
7th February, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters Association,
Kandy.

Dear Sir,

The Cemetery in Kandy is very badly kept, and there are many graves and tombstones of old planters and others that require repairs.

I shall be glad if the P. A. Committee will assist to get this state of matters improved upon.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) P. R. SHAND.

Resolved:—"That the following gentlemen do report to the Committee on the Subject, viz.:—Messrs. J. B. Coles, C. J. Jones, Martin M. Smith and John Still."

GENERAL EXHIBITION, SEMARANG, JAVA, 1914.

Read the following letter from the Hon. the Colonial Secretary:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 4th February, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

Sir,

I am directed to forward, for the information of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, the accompanying copy of a letter received from the Consul for the Netherlands, together with a copy of the pamphlet regarding a General Exhibition to be held during the second half of 1914 at Semarang, Java.

2. I am to state that this Colony will not be officially represented at the Exhibition.

I am Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) D. W. ARNOTT,
for Colonial Secretary.

(Enclosure referred to)
Colombo, 20th January, 1913.

The Hon'ble
The COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Colombo.

Sir,

I am directed by His Excellency the Governor-General of the Netherlands East Indies to bring to the knowledge of the Ceylon Government that during the second half of 1914 a General Exhibition will be held under the Patronage of His Excellency at Semarang, Java, and to say that the Netherlands Indian Government would greatly appreciate it if the Government of Ceylon could see its way to contribute to the success of this undertaking by giving the necessary publicity thereto.

A few copies of a pamphlet relating to the intended Exhibition are being forwarded to you under separate cover.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) O. J. STEIGER,
Consul for the Netherlands.

STERILIZING MANURE.

Laid on the table the following letter from the Director of Agriculture:—

Department of Agriculture, Peradeniya,
Ceylon, 7th February, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Ceylon Planters' Association,
Kandy.

Sir,

With reference to my letter No. 3,420/4,307 of 19th November, 1912, I have the honour to enclose copy of a report by the Government Chemist.

2. You will observe that results so far have been negative, no seeds having germinated in the samples of cake received.

3. I will communicate to you the results of the projected new trials.

I am Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) R. N. LYNE,
Director of Agriculture.

(Report of the Government Chemist.)

February 7th, 1913.

Samples of castor, rape, and groundnut cakes were obtained from the leading manure merchants in Colombo, and carefully sown in sterilized soil under conditions favourable for germination. The experiments were commenced on December 10th, and to date (February 7th) there has been no sign of germination in any case.

Further experiments will now be made by adding a mixture of basic slag and sulphate of potash to the various pans to see if this treatment will induce germination as it apparently does in ordinary cultivation of tea soils.

A new series of experiments will also be commenced with samples of mixtures containing the various cakes obtained

directly from the estates, and the results of these experiments will be communicated in due course.

(Signed) M. KELWAY BAMBER,
Government Chemist.

P. A. ANNUAL REPORT, 1912.

The accounts for 1912 were laid on the table.

Resolved:—"That the Chairman and Secretary do review the expenditure in the office of the Planters' Association and do report to the Committee at the next meeting."

The report was laid on the table and approved for submission to the annual general meeting.

THE PLANTING GAZETTE.

Resolved:—"That all letters to the Editor of this *Gazette* must be printed over the names of their writers." Resolved:—"That the *Gazette* be marked for 'private use only.'" Resolved:—"That the Chairman, P. A., with Messrs. G. C. Bliss and A. M. Carmichael be appointed as a Committee controlling the *Gazette*, and that the Secretary, Planters' Association, be the Editor."

MEDICAL WANTS COMMITTEE.

Resolved:—"That the name of Mr. F. H. Layard be submitted to Government for service on this Committee."

RAGAMA CAMP.

Resolved:—"That the name of Mr. F. H. Layard be submitted to Government for selection as an unofficial visitor of Ragama Camp."

Read letter from Government Agent, W. P., re the supply of cloths to coolies.

MR. E. E. GREEN.

The Committee were informed that a presentation of a silver bowl and other silver articles had been made to Mr. E. E. Green in recognition of his most valuable services to the planting community in his capacity as Government Entomologist.

ARRACK TAVERNS.

Read the following correspondence:—

MAXIMUM QUANTITY OF ARRACK TO BE REMOVED.

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy, 8th January, 1913.

THE HON'BLE

THE GOVERNMENT AGENT,

Sir, C. P., Kandy.

In continuation of my letter of the third instant, re above subject, I have the honour to annex extract of letter received from the Dikoya Planters' Association to my circular on the subject.

I am Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon.

(Extract referred to.)

"That a limit of three bottles of arrack should be allowed and that the Association strongly deprecated any increase of taverns."

"That this Association protests against the opening of a tavern at Norwood."

ARRACK TAVERNS.

Kandy Kach cheri,
21st January, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

Sir,

With reference to your letters dated the 3rd and 8th January, 1913, I have the honour to inform you that it has been considered necessary to open the following new arrack taverns from 1st July, 1913:—

KANDY DISTRICT.

Tumpans Division.
At Eramaduliyadde
Udapatte Division.
At Papuresa
At Miyanagolla
At Galpaya

Uda Dumbara Division.
At Udispattu
Uda Bulatgama Division.
At Hardenhuish
At Norwood
At Maskeliya

I am Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) G. S. SAXTON,
Government Agent, C. P.

Resolved:—"That the correspondence be continued."

CEYLON GOVERNMENT RAILWAY.

THROUGH TRAFFIC TO BANDARAWELLA.

Read the following telegram from the General Manager:—

To SECRETARY,
Planters' Association,

Kandy.

February 13th.

"Through traffic will be resumed to Bandarawella tomorrow including goods traffic. Kindly advise District Associations concerned.—G. M. R."

A vote of thanks to the chair terminated the proceedings.

(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND OF CEYLON.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting of the Planters' Benevolent Fund of Ceylon was held in the Victoria Commemoration Buildings at 2 p.m. Mr. G. C. Bliss presided, and there was a good attendance, those who were coming in for the big meeting being present. Mr. John Still was Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN said that they had purely formal business to transact. There had been no notice of any particular resolution given by any subscriber, so that the only thing to do was to receive the report and accounts. As regarded the accounts, the payments, disbursements, etc., in 1911, came to Rs. 18,500, and compared with that the amount last year was Rs. 25,800. Nevertheless their balance was better, and they had a larger total of invested capital. So he thought they may say that the Planters' Benevolent Fund was in a distinctly satisfactory condition. (Hear, hear.) He formally moved the adoption of the report and accounts for 1912.

The report was adopted. It was as follows:—

Extracts from the reports of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon for the years ending 31st December, 1911 and 1912.

1911.

The Planters' Benevolent Fund was incorporated by Ordinance No. 2 of 1911, and all funds are now vested in the Corporation as a body, and the administration of them controlled by the Standing Committee, as constituted under the Ordinance."

The total capital fund at the end of 1911 amounted to Rs. 205,000, and the interest on this sum, together with the annual subscriptions and donations, has enabled the Standing Committee to extend the help given to necessitous planters and their widows and children.

During 1911, in addition to the monthly allowances paid locally, the sum of £475 was disbursed in sterling grants.

Your Committee trust that the present annual income of the fund may not only be maintained but increased, so that no eligible and deserving case of distress should remain unassisted.

The cordial thanks of your Committee are again due to those representatives of the Standing Committee and the Chairman and Honorary Secretaries of the District Associations who have assisted in enrolling new subscribers to the Fund and in collecting outstanding subscriptions. This latter work would be greatly lightened if annual subscribers would notify changes of address to the Honorary Secretary and remit their subscriptions, at the beginning of each year, without waiting to be reminded they are then due.

1912.

Pensions and grants amounting to Rs. 19,598-19 were voted in Ceylon during the year 1912, and the sterling grants made in most instances through the Ceylon Association in London reached a total of Rs. 2,020-66.

The incorporation of this fund, carried out in 1911, has strengthened the hands of the Committee and defined more closely than formerly the limits within which the income can be administered.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The CHAIRMAN said that there was an Executive Committee attending to the business of the fund in emergencies. It consisted of three members—the Chairman and Secretary and one other member. The Chairman and Secretary, of course, automatically became members of the Executive Committee, but they had to elect one member each year. During the past year Mr. Geo. Benzie acted as the third member of the Committee, and he was very helpful and useful to the Chairman and Secretary. If no other name was suggested he would propose that Mr. Benzie be asked to continue on the Executive Committee. (Hear, hear.)

The proposal was carried.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. Ford, Rhodes, Church & Co. were elected Auditors on the same fees as before.

This was all the business before the meeting.

BALANGODA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING.

AFFILIATION WITH SABARAGAMUWA P. A.

GROWING NEEDS OF THE DISTRICT.

The annual general meeting of the Balangoda Planters' Association was held at the Rest House at 10-30 a.m. on January 11th, 1913.

The following were present:—Messrs. A. D. Sly (Chairman), P. Lecky Watson, R. Brough, W. D. Holland, T. R. Parry, A. N. Lushington, A. C. Tuckniss, Barnes Ratwatte, R.M.; R.C. Bingham, G. H. Cleaver, J. G. May, and J. Graham Bell (Hon. Secretary), and Mr. W. W. Roberts, as visitor.

THE ANNUAL REPORT, 1912.

The Hon. Secretary read the report as follows:—

We have the honour to put before you the 13th annual report of this Association.

REGISTER.—There are on the roll 21 estates. One estate has ceased to belong to this Association, and four others have joined.

MEETINGS.—There have been four general meetings during the year at which attendance has been very good.

FINANCES.—The account for 1912 are laid on the table, there being a credit balance of Rs. 318-02, which is very satisfactory.

Crop.	Acreage.	Crop. lbs.	Estimated Crop. 1913. lbs.
Tea	6,061	2,633,964	2,784,000
Rubber	843	30,380	54,000
Cardamoms	286	16,459	23,000

WEATHER.—The South-West monsoon was a very mild one compared with past years, the result being that the tea crop shows an increase of 282,456 lbs., which is most satisfactory. The total rainfall for the year taken on Detanagalla was 119-14, somewhat above the average.

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS.—The Postmaster-General is willing to convert the Pinnawela Receiving Office into a Post Office if a suitable building is constructed and a rental charged of Rs. 30 per month.

DISTRICT ROADS.—The report of your representative in the D. R. C. has been laid on the table.

THE BALANGODA-PELMADULLA ROAD.—The cutting off the corners and heightening of the parapet walls has been completed, and this part of the road, which, during the greater part of the year was in very bad order, is now, your Committee are glad to say, in good order, except for one or two places.

THE BALANGODA-BOGAWANTALAWA CONNECTING ROAD.—The Government still refuses to see the necessity for constructing the same, and we must agitate and ask the aid of the Sabaragamuwa and Dikoya Associations and then, if we fail, the Parent Association must be asked to help us.

GANSABAWA ROADS.—These are in a very bad condition, and we would impress upon the members the necessity of bringing to the notice of the Association all roads which are not properly maintained.

MINOR ROADS.—These are also in need of repair.

HOSPITAL.—The report of your visitors has been laid on the table, and we are glad to say, is a most satisfactory one. Their recommendation for a new fence to be constructed round the grounds has our support.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.—This has been very well supported, and we would ask all members who have not subscribed to this deserving fund to consider the desirability of doing so.

LABOUR.—The District Labour Federation is seemingly working well, but the presence of a few native estates in the district appears to be the stumbling block to the success of its objective. We regret that the position of labour in this district shows no appreciable improvement, for although a few places may have improved numerically, advances still continue to increase, and coolies are more intent on moving about. The good work of the Proprietors' Labour Federation has been nullified to a great extent by so few estates having joined same. It is the opinion of your Committee that this vexatious question will never be improved or settled except by the proprietors and the Colombo agents who represent them. It is very satisfactory to note that a good many coolies in this district have been recruited from the Coast. This and the keeping of coolies' accounts should help to alleviate the present strain.

TEA PESTS.—We are glad to record that the district still continues free from pests.

STRAYING CATTLE.—This nuisance still continues, and it is only with the co-operation of the members of this Association that Government can check same.

RATNAPURA RAILWAY.—The Railway to Ratnapura was opened by His Excellency the Governor on May, the 18th last, and this Association joins with that of Sabaragamuwa in thanking Government for having given us a better means of communication with Colombo.

PELMADULLA RAILWAY EXTENSION.—It is with deep regret your Committee have to state that His Excellency the Governor, owing to whose active measures this extension was sanctioned to Kahawatte, has to resign owing to his health having failed under the strain of work. As was stated in our last annual report this Association is unanimously opposed to Kahawatte being the terminus, and we are still agitating, and hope for success, for the extension to be continued to Opanaika. Government have called for statistics, and these have been collected and forwarded.

TELEPHONES.—We have been granted a license to erect telephones by the Superintendent of Telegraphs. A representative of Messrs. C. A. Hutson will be with us to-day to discuss the best route and the cheapest manner of erection.

GENERAL.—Tea is looking well all over the district. Tea crop shows a considerable increase and tea prices have been most satisfactory.

RUBBER, although planted at rather a high elevation, seems to thrive. The heavy rainfall has been the cause of the estimate of 36,500 lbs. not being obtained.

OBITUARY.—Your Committee regret to recall the death, during the year, of Mr. Alexander Wardrop, Secretary of the Parent Association.

Mr. LECKY WATSON moved that the report be adopted. Mr. HOLLAND seconded.—Carried.

THE CHAIRMAN, on vacating the chair, thanked all the members of the Association for the help and support they had given him during the past year, and also the Hon. Secretary for the most capable way in which he had carried out the work of the Association, and added that it was impossible for any Chairman to make the Association a success without a capable Hon. Secretary.

Mr. LECKY WATSON then took the chair and asked the members to re-elect Mr. Sly as Chairman.

Mr. BROUGH seconded.

Mr. SLY said he did not wish to take office again, but, on being pressed, said that he would take it until the dissolution of the Association which, he understood, was likely to take place during this month.

Mr. SLY proposed that Mr. Graham Bell be re-elected Hon. Secretary, Mr. HOLLAND seconded.—Carried.

DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION.

THE CHAIRMAN remarked that as the members were aware, this Association had, on a previous occasion, been dissolved, but there had been a great deal of ill-feeling over the manner in which the dissolution was carried. Therefore, at their last meeting, the advisability of asking the Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association to absorb this Association, in the same manner as Rakwana was, had been discussed in Committee. He had explained to them his ideas on the matter and pointed out the desirability, now that Sabaragamuwa Province was becoming one of the most important ones in the Island, that they should have one body, a strong one, to put forward their needs before Government. They had been allowed, for the last few years, three of their members on the Committee of the Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association, and he must say that whatever they had brought before that Association had received every consideration and help. The Balangoda district needed better means of communication. The extension of the railway to Kahawatte had been sanctioned, but, as the Committee had pointed out in their annual report, it wanted more, and that is, that the railway should be extended to Opanaika. Communication by road in the district was not as it should be, and Government must be made to realise the necessity of giving Balangoda district better communication by road or helping the pioneers of the district to construct more roads and maintain the present ones. The district was growing fast and its needs were becoming greater. Therefore he was anxious that, if the Association was to be dissolved, it must be unanimously, otherwise he thought it would be unwise to dissolve same. He then brought forward this resolution, "That the Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association be asked to affiliate the Balangoda Planters' Association on the same terms as those on which the Rakwana Association was affiliated." Mr. BROUGH seconded.—Carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

THE CHAIRMAN proposed that in view of the above resolution, the election of office-bearers be postponed until after the annual meeting of the Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association.—Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letter from the Postmaster-General stating that he was willing to convert the present Receiving Office into

a Post Office if a suitable building was constructed and a rental charged of Rs. 30 per month.

Read letter from the Secretary of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, enclosing a copy of a letter from the Kalutara Planters' Association *re* Rubber Canker. It was unanimously resolved to support this resolution.

Read copy of a letter from the Hon. the Government Agent, Central Province, to the Secretary of the Planters' Association of Ceylon *re* the cultivation of coca.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

It was resolved to support Mr. James Gray's application for increase of pension.

A vote of thanks to the Chair proposed by Mr. BROUGH and seconded by Mr. LECKY WATSON terminated the meeting.

J. GRAHAM BELL,
Hon. Secretary, B. P. A.



RESOLUTION MADE AT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE
14TH FEBRUARY, 1913:

"PLANTING GAZETTE."

"That all letters to the Editor of this *Gazette* must be printed over the names of their writers."

The Editor cordially invites correspondence on subjects of interest to the Planting Community. The Editor reserves the right to reject any contribution.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for any opinions which may be expressed in this column.

THE CHAIRMAN,
Planters' Association, Kandy.

My Dear Sir,

I am delighted to hear that a Planters' Newspaper is to be started. Such a scheme has been in my head for many years, and the success of my experimental venture—"The Dimbula Desk Book"—shows that the idea is practical not Utopian.

There is much matter of permanent interest to the Planting Community that is now buried in the files of the Ceylon Daily Press often lost beyond recall, or forgotten amidst the circulars sent out to members.

Such a periodical as a "Ceylon Planters' Gazette" (issued under the aegis of the Parent Association in Kandy) would centralise the brain work of the Planting Community and spread the results abroad, not only in the Island, but would render them easily accessible to Planters in England, the Straits and elsewhere who at present rapidly lose touch with planting opinion and planting thought.

If skilfully managed the advertisements could be made not to defray the major part of the cost of production but to be an interesting guide to the most up-to-date machinery, tools and planting requirements generally.

A Diary of events (as they occur) would in future years be of great historical value, and papers on planting subjects such as Hygiene and Scientific Cultivation, would have more than an ephemeral interest and would stimulate discussion and encourage thought and new ideas.

"Quicquid agunt cultores nostri est farrago libelli" should be your motto.

Wishing the New Ship a good launch and fair voyage with a full cargo.

Believe me, Yours &c., JAMES RYAN,
Kandy, January, 1913.

23rd January, 1913
FROM THE GOVERNMENT AGENT, C. P. KANDY.
TO THE SECRETARY,

Planters' Association of Ceylon, Kandy.
Subject.—ORDINANCE No. 9 of 1909.

Sir,
I have the honour to call your attention to the fact that I occasionally get declarations under Ordinance No. 9 of 1909 that a Superintendent has paid all his coolies, whereas really there are a few unpaid (please see section 4 (6) of the Ordinance).

I would suggest that it would be advisable for Superintendents to note at the back of the declarations the names of coolies unpaid and the sums due and reason for non-payment. Otherwise the sender is liable to punishment for a false declaration, if by any chance the non-payment comes to light afterwards.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) G. S. SAXTON,
H. M. M. MOORE, Esq., Office Assistant. Government Agent, C.P.



THE CATTLE TICK.—A REMEDY.

Realising that throughout all creation. Nature provides a balance, and recognising the absolute necessity for such balance, I have always been looking for some natural restraint that could be applied to the cattle tick, and I have tried many simple remedies without success, except in one case, where I found that if cattle were dosed regularly with sulphur in small quantities they carried very few ticks—probably only the fittest, but in this case even the survival of the fittest meant far too many, although these sulphured cattle never became sufficiently infested to show any signs of distress, nor did they lose condition.

But in this sulphurless region this means absolutely no relief to big mobs, where it would be impossible to dose, and I gave up the idea as being of value only to the man with a house cow, and formed the opinion that the only remedy lay in finding a destructive organism that could be introduced into the system of beast, which while harmless so far as the beast was concerned, would be fatal to the tick.

Taking on the management of a dairy farm on the Queensland North Coast Railway in one of the worst tick districts in the State gave me an opportunity of further investigation, and some two years ago I was fortunate enough to get a clue. I followed it up, and was delighted to find that it led to the locating of the very thing I had fancied must exist somewhere in Nature's general plan. Choosing a particular "ticky" beast, I vaccinated her with this particular organism, and anxiously watched for the result.

The cow was in full milk at the time, and I expected some reaction, and possibly a loss in milk. In this I was disappointed; there was no reaction, and instead of loss of milk there was a decided increase in flow, and as weeks

drew on into months, and this cow, instead of being "sprayed" every three or four weeks with the others, remained free from tick. I reckoned the charm had worked, and taking lymph from the tiny vesicles that she had developed (which appeared periodically on the escutcheon and dew-lap only), I vaccinated a number of other cattle—milkers and yearlings. In every case the result was satisfactory, and while the untreated stock showed the ravages of tick on their necks and flanks, the treated stock grew sleek and clean-coated, and although many of them have not been sprayed or dipped for the past eighteen months, they show no signs of tick. With such a result I felt justified in drawing the attention of the State authorities to my fortunate discovery, and the Stock Department have decided to enter upon a series of exhaustive tests next spring in order to prove absolutely or to disprove the efficacy of this tick-destroying microbe.

As a further proof (in my own mind) of its efficacy I can safely say that any ticks that adhere to these vaccinated stock have a short life indeed.

It is only natural that in a mob of ordinary cattle (tick infested) there will be millions of ticks born every few days, and these minute ticks crawl on to the vaccinated stock just as readily as they do on to the others, and here comes what I consider the strongest evidence in my discovery's favour. Careful observation of a vaccinated beast will show the escutcheon and dew-lap and face to be covered with thousands of newly-hatched young ticks, no bigger than grains of salt; all firmly fixed into hide. If carefully watched, these ticks will in a couple of days be found to be merely dry scales, which fall off, leaving no trace of their existence, while those that have fixed upon an untreated beast will be found to be thriving, and at the same time setting up the irritation that is serious enough to induce poverty and misery to the unfortunate animal, and if allowed to mature the beast will present the appearance of being covered with peas, with rough, untidy coat, which is a pitiful contrast to the clean, shiny coat of her vaccinated companion. It sometimes happens that a half grown tick will adhere to one of these treated cattle, and the result is the same.

These odd ticks, if placed in a box and watched, will slowly shrivel up, and in from two to three days will be dead. It may be as well to mention that an ordinary half-matured tick will live in a box for months!

In some cases I found a well-developed tick on a vaccinated beast, and in some cases these ticks laid a number of eggs before dying, but so far none of these eggs hatched, although a control tick the same size laid eggs which duly hatched.

It may be that the older tick takes longer to kill, although the disease destroys its unlaidd eggs.

If this be the case, so much the better. It is better to kill the new tick before it grows big enough to become a drain upon its host, and so far as my actual experiments have gone, they have proved that on the ten cows treated it is absolutely impossible for cattle ticks to live more than a couple of days, and in no case have I known a tick to develop on any of these specially treated animals.

What would be the effect upon the tick pest generally if every beast, say, in a zone of twenty miles wide were vaccinated with this organism?

Not being able to mature they would naturally rapidly die out, and if unvaccinated stock were excluded from this area the tick would be an impossibility. Then extend the

zones until ultimately the pest was driven into a condition no worse than that of the March fly, *i.e.*, only a nominal worry.

And while I think of it, this organism may be as deadly to the same March fly. Why not? For the benefit of those of a scientific turn of mind I might say that this organism confines its attention to the lymphatics, and is thus taken into the system of the minute tick, probably before it even gets a taste of the actual blood of the beast attacked. The affection may thus be termed a skin affection only, and as the vesicles formed are small, and only noticeable on close observation, there is no pitting or injury to the hide.

It is somewhat peculiar that these vesicles should be only apparent on the escutcheon and dew-lap—the two favourite habitats of the tick itself.

As a further test I have frequently turned a vaccinated beast out into the open country for a couple of months at a time, but the result has always been the same, *i.e.*, she remained perfectly clean, while the wandering stock with her were literally covered, and in some instances had died from tick worry (poverty) even abundance of fresh grass.

Whether these vaccinated stock throw immune stock or not I cannot say for certain, although in two cases I have immune calves from vaccinated cattle. One vaccinated cow, her daughter, and grand-daughter are all clean but that is not enough to prove this point; it needs time.—*Pastoralists' Review.*

(Taken from *The Planters' Chronicle*, January 13th, 1913.

THE LABOUR QUESTION.

Dear Sir,

What is being done to solve this question? I have read the different resolutions of the District Associations on the Registration Scheme without gaining any idea as to what their intention are. It appears to me that the onus of producing a workable scheme satisfactory and acceptable to all districts, has unfairly been thrown on to the shoulders of the Labour Committee, without any suggestions from any one so far as can gather to help them, and in the hope of getting independent ideas and hints that may lighten their unenviable burden. I hope you will throw open your valuable columns and invite discussion. Some valuable flash of light on this thorny subject may escape from some inspired pen which the Labour Committee may seize on and lick into shape. Every planter in Southern India is interested in this subject, and every planter's mind should be bent on assisting by every means in his power, in overcoming a growing evil. In my opinion the future path of the planter is beset with perils and disaster, if this question is not faced—and at once. Where two or three are gathered together this Labour question is a topic of conversation; and instead of hole and corner discussions, I believe it would be better to give vent to our ideas or thoughts in the *Chronicle*. What should be everybody's business is apparently nobody's business. You will perhaps excuse me, Sir, when I say that the pages of your paper, prove you to be an adept in picking other men's brains, for beyond the valuable papers of the Planting Expert, what is the original in it? Why not, then, use that talent in extracting original or helpful ideas from our brother-

planters on this vital topic? As no one will open the ball, I will perform the functions of the whetstone. I may be sacrificed in the process, but if good comes of it I shall not have suffered in vain.

Two leaderettes have appeared in the *Madras Times* and *Madras Mail* under the heading of "Madras and F. M. S." and "Coolies' Savings" respectively, which have not attracted the attention they deserved. The former article tells us that "according to the Census of 1911 no less than 172,465 coolies were Indians (largely recruited from this Presidency)." Labour, mind you, that ought to be employed in their own country and not be allowed to emigrate. The Federated Government thoroughly appreciates the value of Indian labour and offers alluring inducements," by giving free passes, and the Emigration Committee received from their Government \$450,000 to enable them to pay a recruiting allowance of \$5 for each labourer imported. "Consequently 78,000 Indians emigrated in 1911 against 59,300 in 1910," and prospects are daily becoming better. With more rubber land coming into bearing, more coolies will be required, and therefore increased emigration. The *Madras Mail* advocates advertising, and points out how the Recruiters taking advantage of Government Reports, advertise the coolies' savings. To reduce emigration to the lowest limits compatible with the retention of a plentiful supply of labour for South India, an appreciable rise in wages and advertising must go hand in hand. For the latter we must look to the Government for help for reliable information. It will be in the remembrance of all that at the U. P. A. S. I. meeting of 1910, Mr. Aylmer Martin made these points—a rise in wages and advertising—the principal theme of his recommendations. If that gentleman does me the honour to read this he may well say "By God that's my thunder," but knowing that he has this question much at heart, I feel sure that he will forgive a convert, however puny, to his views.

Yours faithfully,

FUNGAR VICE COTIS.

HARRISLAND "TUNDU" CASE.

WHAT IS BINDING ON A PERSON ISSUING A "TUNDU."

The Chief Justice delivered judgment to-day in a Gampola case: Mr. J. A. V. Attapattu of Harrisland, Nawaladitiya, sued Mr. G. D. Vaidye of Theydon Bois, Nawaladitiya, for Rs. 106-62 on a cheque issued by defendant. Plaintiff had issued a tundu for discharge of two coolies. Defendant sent a cheque. Plaintiff paid off the two coolies, but payment of the cheque was stopped. Defendant alleged plaintiff failed to discharge the coolies, but the Commissioner gave judgment against defendant. The Chief Justice concludes his judgment as follows:—

"I think the balance of the evidence is in favour of the conclusion that the plaintiff did all that he lawfully could do to carry out the transfer of the coolies, and the contract which is implied in a "tundu" transaction cannot bind the transferring party to do more than the law allows him to do. Of course if, as may well have been the case here, the coolies given in charge of the agent of the new employer refused to accompany him, the old employer is responsible. He cannot guarantee that the coolies will take service with the new employer. This is a contingency which can only be guarded against by the new employer

refusing to part with his money until he has entered into a valid contract of service with the new coolies. I think that the judgment of the Commissioner is right, and I dismiss the appeal with costs.—“Observer,” 21st January, 1913.

PLANTING NOTES ON THE DELUGES.

22.10 INCHES ON OPALGALLA.

Peradeniya, January 19th.—It had been raining from Wednesday night till 8 a.m. to-day. The Mahaweliganga is flooded. The railway lines was washed away near Mulle-game level crossing, and there was no train from Kandy till 3.45 p.m.

Matale N.E., January 17th.—On an estate in the Gammaduwa district 8.22 was registered at 6 a.m. to-day as the rainfall of the preceding 24 hours, while a neighbour's record was 8.31 and still it pours. No outdoor work possible until it clears.—January 18th.—The rainfall yesterday was so heavy the precaution was taken to measure it in the afternoon, the result 5 in., to this 11.40 was added this morning's total; 16.40—with the water in the rain gauge running over. This was thought to be the record for Gammaduwa district, for 24 hours. Have just been informed that on Opalgalla 22.10 inches were registered. I have yet to learn whether this has been exceeded. [The record is 31.72 in 24 hours at Nedunkeni, N.C.P., on December 15th, 16th, 1897.—Ed. C.O.] One quotes 21.10, and at the North end of the range 16.87 registered.—“Observer,” 20th January, 1913.

THE ASSAULT ON A GAMPOLA PLANTER.

A DECISION ON APPEAL.

FIRST ACCUSED EXONERATED BY THE CHIEF JUSTICE.

INTERESTING DECISION.

A case from the Gampola Police Court was argued in appeal to-day before the Chief Justice, in which Mr. G. R. B. Williams, Superintendent of Mulgama estate, charged Govinden and two other coolies employed under him with having caused hurt to him and with misconduct. According to the case for the prosecution the complainant found fault with the accused as they had not done enough work. He told them he would give them half name. The first accused then started grumbling, and was told by the complainant to stop. Eventually complainant gave the man a slap. The three accused then got round him and assaulted him.

The Magistrate convicted the accused and sentenced each to six months' and three months' rigorous imprisonment on each count, the sentences to run concurrently. They appealed, and Mr. H. H. Bartholomeusz appeared for them. Mr. F. A. Hayley appeared for the respondent.

His Lordship held that the complainant had no justification to strike the first accused in the way he did, and it could not be accepted that the first accused would have kept quiet. The conviction and sentence of the first accused were set aside.

As regards the other two accused His Lordship held that they were not justified in joining in the assault. Accordingly their convictions and sentences were affirmed.

THE JUDGMENT.

His Lordship in his judgment says:—“I am fully alive to the importance of maintaining discipline among immigrant labourers on an estate, and I am also sensible that considerable allowance should be made to the difficulty in which superintendents of estates are placed, when they are confronted by insubordinate coolies; but in my opinion the conviction of the first accused in this case cannot stand. He and his companions had been ordered to receive half day's pay for their day's work. Whether that penalty be legal or not, it is one which would naturally give rise to discontent on their part. This the accused, all three of them, expressed by a complaint in loud tone and voice. There is no evidence that at that stage they used any abusive and insulting language to the complainant. Then the complainant struck the first accused a blow in the face. Thereupon the first accused wrested a cane from the complainant and struck him, as the evidence goes to show, only once. In my opinion the complainant had no justification for striking the first accused in the way he did, and to expect the first accused to lie quiet under the blow is to ask for more than he could expect of human nature. The first accused, in my opinion, had received such provocation as would deprive any ordinary person of his power of self-control.”—*Times of Ceylon* 17th January, 1913.

SUIT FOR Rs. 50,000 BY A LABOUR RECRUITER.

(*Observer*, 11th January, 1913).

His Lordship Mr. Justice Wallis is engaged in hearing a suit in the High Court brought by Mr. A. M. Ross, Planter, residing at Berhampore, against the Secretary of State for India in Council for damages estimated at Rs. 50,000. The plaintiff was a coolie recruiting Agent, in the Madras Presidency for Messrs. Williamson Magor & Co., Palmer Lawrie & Co., and numerous other Tea Companies in Assam. Under the Assam Labour Emigration Act of 1901 specially licensed garden Sirdars carried on the work of recruitment under the supervision of a local agent like the plaintiff. The Collector of the District used to register coolies recruited therefrom, but in the case of the companies whose representative the plaintiff was, Madras Government had empowered their local agents themselves to keep the necessary registers. In February 1910, however, Mr. N. MacMichael, I.C.S., Collector of Ganjam, prohibited the area on the ground that a few “Sirdars” attached to a particular tea garden, recruited coolies from the Agency Tracts, and suspended the licence of one Rama Sastri, the local agent concerned and directed the closure of the coolie depot itself. The depot was intended to be used and was in fact being used not only by Sirdars alleged to have been guilty of illegal recruitment, but also by many other Sirdars belonging to many other tea plantations. The plaintiff protected against the closure which stopped the entire work of recruitment in the district and sent various petitions to the local authorities to reconsider their order, also put in a formal application that some Government registering offices under the Labour Act be appointed. The Collector would not do this and the plaintiff appealed to the Government of Madras, who upheld the Collector's order but re-opened the depot. In

their order they made the following unwarranted remark, that "the conduct of Mr. Ross was not wholly above suspicion."

The plaintiff submitted that the closure of the depôt was absolutely unwarranted by the Act, and on account of this he had been put to a heavy loss, and advances made to the "Sirdars" by him to the extent of Rs. 10,000 were still outstanding. Also the plaintiff had been seriously damaged in personal reputation by the unwarranted remark of the Government in their order. In these circumstances he prayed for damages as stated above, and also to declare the orders passed by the Collector and the Madras Government to be *ultra vires* and illegal.

The defendant denied that the Madras Government had done everything which could give rise to any cause of action against him. The remark in the order of the Madras Government was absolutely privileged.—*M. Times*, January 9th, 1913.

CURE OF DYSENTERY.

REMARKABLE RESULTS IN CEYLON.

A DISCOVERY THAT WILL MEAN MUCH TO THE TROPICS.

REMEDY ALSO APPLIES TO LIVER ABSCESS.

During the last two days we have been making enquiries with regard to remarkable medical discovery which is of particular import to tropical countries, and we are indebted to a local doctor for an article in the "British Medical Journal" describing the cure, as well as for the gratifying information that the cure, which is for dysentery, has already been tried in Ceylon over a period of two months with remarkable success. The medical man tried it on himself when he was suffering from acute dysentery and effected a complete cure in a week, while all the time he was able to go on with his work.

The cure is made by hypodermic injections of soluble salts of emetine, and it is very effective in the case of amoebic dysentery, which is the form more prevalent in Ceylon. The discoverer of the treatment is Dr. Leonard Rogers, M. D., Professor of Pathology, Calcutta. Emetine is the principal Alkaloid of ipecacuanha, which has long been used in cases of dysentery, and Dr. Rogers tested the effects of soluble emetine hydrochloride on dysentery germs in excreta, with striking results, the organism being immediately killed by a 1 in 10,000 solution, while the germs were rendered inactive and apparently killed by as weak a solution as 1 in 100,000.

Dr. Rogers adds: "I therefore decided to try if this powerful alkaloid can be safely administered hypodermically in the treatment of amoebic disease, and have obtained such striking results in a few patients that it seems to be advisable to make them known to others before the ensuing rainy season of widely prevalent amoebic disease. The following three cases have been selected because in none of them could the patients take ipecacuanha by the mouth, will suffice for this purpose, although much further experience will be necessary before the full value and limitations of the method can be ascertained."

The cases are then given in detail. In one case a woman suffering very severely from acute dysentery was

placed on the road to recovery in four days, and in another week was completely restored to health. The next was a chronic case of amoebic dysentery, the patient having been a sufferer for three and a half years. The patient was quite unable to take ipecacuanha by the mouth and his general condition was extremely bad. Although the patient was a tall man he only scaled 80 lbs. Subcutaneous injections of the active principle of ipecacuanha were tried and a marked improvement was apparent in two days. In the next fortnight he put on 8 lbs. in weight and was able to eat solid food, being quite free from all dysenteric symptoms. The recovery is described as by far the most remarkable. Dr. Rogers has ever seen in chronic amoebic dysentery, the difficulty in dealing with which is so well-known to all medical men in the tropics.

ALSO A CURE FOR INFLAMMATION OF THE LIVER.

The cure also applies to hepatitis, or inflammation of the liver. A European lady suffering from hepatitis following on dysentery was completely cured in a few days.

Dr. Rogers concluded as follows:—"In view of the strikingly good results obtained in these three cases, which are illustrative of the most important types of amoebic disease and in each of which the administration of ipecacuanha by the mouth was impracticable. I venture to think that no apology is needed for bringing this method of treatment to the notice of physicians in the tropics without delay. Should further results fulfil the great hopes raised by the success above recorded, it will be difficult to exaggerate the boon which will be conferred on the numerous sufferers from the intractable and deadly form of amoebic form of dysentery and its very serious hepatic complication."

We learn from another source that injection subcutaneously is such a simple matter, and so free of danger that it can be done by a non-medical man. It could for instance be applied by dispensers on estates to coolies, who suffer largely from acute dysentery.

RESULTS BEYOND DOUBT.

The foregoing describes the experience of Dr. Rogers up to June last. On August 24th further results achieved by the new treatment are chronicled in the "British Medical Journal," in which Dr. Rogers writes as follows:—"During the two months which have elapsed since that note was written I have had frequent opportunities of using the new treatment in suitable cases, thanks mainly to the kindness of my I. M. S. colleagues in the different Calcutta hospitals, to whom I tender my best thanks. The results have been more than confirmatory of my first very favourable impressions, and leave no possible doubt as to the great practical importance of the discovery. Some of them are, indeed, so surprising they must be seen to be fully appreciated, as the words can convey but a feeble impression of the rapidity and completeness of the recoveries effected in very grave cases." With regard to the case of the person mentioned in June as being a sufferer of 3½ years' standing, it is stated that the patient continued to be free of any symptoms. Further cases are given, one being a patient on the verge of collapse.

PREVENTING LIVER ABSCESS.

Further details are given of the remarkable efficacy in preventing liver abscess by curing both acute and chronic hepatitis. Amoebic abscesses of the liver and spleen are also very amenable to the cure.—*Times of Ceylon*, 17th January, 1913.

